

Newsletter 19: 24th November

From The Principal



Kia ora koutou

Our Learning theme for the year has been 'Power' and last week Mother Nature sent us a message reminding us just how powerful she is. I would like to acknowledge the stamina of our Rāwhiti staff, many of whom faced their own challenges overnight, but were at work on Monday to complete the necessary safety checks and then here early on Tuesday morning to ensure that children were welcomed back to their normal routine. I am really proud of the professionalism and dedication of our staff.

Thanks also to the children who have organized the mufti day tomorrow, arranged for care packages to be sent to Kaikoura, and sent kind and supportive messages to the children whose schools have been impacted by this quake. One child told me this week that he feels like he is paying back some of the kind things that were done for him when we had 'our quake'. Empathy is an important quality, and our children know exactly what others are now going through.

Things only get busier from here on in and we know that the next 3 weeks will fly by. We will be publishing a newsletter each Thursday until the end of the term, to keep you up to date with what is happening. Please note some of the key dates in our What's Coming Up section and add them to your (already busy) diary.

Tsunami Evacuation Procedures

If we receive warning that a tsunami is predicted and evacuation is advised:

- Parents will be informed that we have received an evacuation notification from Civil Defence. This information will be sent by text and notifications will also be posted on our school website, on Facebook, and via the Rāwhiti School App.
- Teachers will be notified and classes will assemble on the netball courts. Teachers will have full class lists that include parent/caregiver details, and emergency contacts.
- Once rolls have been checked classes will begin the walk to Waitakiri School, 170 Burwood Road, Christchurch 8083. **This is the destination advised by Civil Defence.** The School Hall is the gathering point at Waitakiri.
- The route for walking is Leaver Terrace, Marriots Road, Rookwood Ave, Travis Road, Burwood Road.
- Staff and students will stay together.
- Teachers will maintain class lists of students collected by parents or nominated emergency contacts, including who students have gone home with and the time. Students may only be uplifted by a parent/caregiver, or one of the emergency contacts identified on the enrolment form.
- Special needs students who have been identified with mobility difficulties will be transported to Waitakiri School in the Rāwhiti School vans, driven by the Learning Support Coordinator or the Caretaker.
- The Principal or a Deputy Principal will follow up at the rear in a vehicle, with the daily roll, and first aid (including Epi Pens for students with life threatening allergies) and communication resources.

If we receive notification during the school day of an event of distant origin e.g. earthquake in South America, with a warning time of 10 or more hours:

- Parents will be notified by email, web site, Facebook, and Rāwhiti School App so that they can make their own decision as to whether they uplift their child from school.
- We will remain open for the school day.
- We will track events as they develop throughout the evening in order to make an informed decision about school closure.

This information is on our school web site under the General Information tab - Emergencies.

Now is a great time to ensure the school office has your updated phone contact details, and that we also have two nominated emergency contacts listed for your child.



School Zone

On Monday of this week we received official notification from the Ministry of Education that our enrolment zone boundaries have been confirmed. The board has now formally adopted the enrolment scheme, which will be operational from January 1st 2017. This means that we now have to run a ballot for out of zone enrolments wanting to start in Term 1 of next year. The ballot will be held on Friday December 9th, and applications must be at the school office no later than midday on Wednesday December 7th. If you have already completed an Out of Zone application form then you are automatically in the ballot. If you live outside the zone and have not yet completed a form please contact Jan in the office as soon as possible.

In 2017 a ballot will be held each term for enrolments the following term. Up to date enrolment scheme information will be added to the school web site under the General Information tab.

Class Structure

We are putting the finishing touches to the student groupings for next year. In 2017 all of our Learning Studios will have composite year levels. By “composite classes,” we mean putting two or more consecutive year-groups together in one class – which is how the school is currently organised. Composite classes are not new. They are a common form of class organisation in schools across the country. However composite classes can be a source of worry for some, especially where parents believe that their child is being disadvantaged in some way if they are placed in a composite class.

Each year we put a lot of thought into how best to provide an equitable and practical school structure. In next weeks newsletter we will outline the structure of each of the studios and the teachers who will be working in each space.

Remember, if you want to know more about National Standards and end of year reports, Helen and I will be running short session in the school library at 9am tomorrow. All welcome.

Ngā mihi nui kia a koutou

Liz Weir

Principal



Principals Awards

Rongo Ma Tane: Riley, Layton, Marlee, Willow, Madison, Sarah, Kiana, Shaydon, Brooke, Charli, Azariah, Cole, Lachie, Luke, Dylan, Caide, Elliot
Haumia-tiketike: Layla, Rosie

What's Coming Up

24/11	PTA 7.30pm
25/11	Mufti Day for North Canterbury Schools earthquake appeal. National Standards and Reports workshop for Parents.
30/11	Huakina Mai whanau hui 3.30pm
30/11	Year 7/8 Camp
1/12	Parent Helpers Thank You (5.30pm)
6/12	Year 0/1 Fun Athletics 9.30am BOT Meeting 5.30pm
7/12	Canterbury Athletics Year 2/3 Athletic Sports 12.30pm
8/12	Year 8 Day Out & Leavers Dinner
13/12	Final Assembly 6.30pm
14/12	Rāwhiti Rumbustification (Fun Day)
15/12	Showcase Assembly 1.30pm
16/12	School Closes 12pm.

School Notices

School Car Park

Many thanks for respecting that the gate is now closed at the end of the day and access only granted to those vehicles displaying a valid parking permit, and the after school care vans. We are already noticing how much safer it is for our children during the busy after school pick up period.

Reminder

Sunscreen is provided in class, but maybe a little reminder to put sunscreen on your child at home.

Hats are to be worn at school - school uniform ones not caps.

Swimming - encourage use of rash shirts etc to help with sun protection.

2016 School Accounts

You will have received your child's current school account today. We thank you for settling these accounts before the end of the year if possible.

We encourage you to make regular weekly payments to help with budgeting school expenses. Our bank account number is: 03 0814 0000333 25. Please put your child's name as a reference. Eft-pos is available in the school office and if cash is been sent to school, please put in a sealed envelope with your child's name, room number and reason for payment. In all instances if payment for an event/trip is going to be difficult for you we encourage you to contact the school office as soon as possible to discuss options with you.

Athletic Sports

What a fantastic day! Big thank you to all the children and staff who made this a fantastic day. Congratulations to all the competitors and thank you to all the supporters who came and cheered them on.



Bike Track

The bike track is open and the children are having a fantastic time using it.

It is also great to see families using the track after school and at the weekends.

Thank you so much to all the people who have helped us get to this point. There are many many people who make something this big happen. Special thanks to the following;

An amazing anonymous donor \$50,000

Rāwhiti School PTA \$30,000

Rāwhiti School BOT \$30,000

Christchurch City Council \$10,000

Rawhiti Community Sports Trust \$10,000

Paul McCardle and Anouk Minnaar from Bike on NZ

Paul and Nigel from Civil and Land Construction - Track builders

Pete McIntyre from Ride9 - Bike supplier

John from Royal Wolfe Containers - Storage container

The following people donated money to buy bikes or helmets;

Seaview Lions Club, Snug in the City, CFPS, David East MP, Daryl Hemingway Plumbing, Rory, Andrew & Sharon Brook, Elissa Brinkerhoff, Toby, Janet, Liz.

(If you have made a donation and I have left you off this list please accept my humble apology and contact me paul@rawhiti.school.nz)

There have been many others who have given time to help assemble bikes, bury tyres, plant plants etc. Thank you to everyone who has helped us set up this extraordinary resource.

We will be publicly acknowledging and thanking the people who have supported us with the bike track development at the Rāwhiti Rumbustification Fun Day on the 14th December. Parents, families, friends and supporters are welcome to join us. Bring your bike if you would like to. Brief speeches will be held at about 10.45 a.m. Followed by riding and other FUN Day activities.

We have helmets available for sale. \$25 buys you a good quality helmet (worth about \$50 in the shops). These would make great Christmas presents.





Recently the year 7s had the opportunity to go to a leadership conference to find out about what leadership looks like and how they could develop their leadership skills for next year. It was a great day full of games and learning opportunities



Choir

I'm super proud of our Rāwhiti kids... they performed so beautifully today for the seaside seniors and the way they conversed and interacted with them after performing was genuine and heartwarming.





School Environment Awards

We are very proud of our environment group they were presented an award last night Highly Commended with Waste Minimisation and recycling endorsement.

Georgina our friendly caretaker received an award for recognition of contribution towards the maintenance and improvement of the school environment.

PTA News

Kia ora everybody, only a few more weeks to go and school's out for the summer. Wouldn't you like to win some treats for your pantry?

Children will be coming home with Christmas raffle forms shortly. There are ten tickets to sell at \$1 each. More tickets will be available at the office and forms can be returned with money, sold or partially sold - it's all voluntary, whatever your whanau is able to sell is fantastic.

First prize will include a ham and Christmas cake as well as other goodies. Last year we had more than 30 hampers for the lucky winners so the odds are decent. We will also be offering prizes for the children who sell the most tickets and spot prizes for children who return any ticket sales.

To fill the hampers there will be a mufti day next **Friday 2 December** (there is still a mufti day for Kaikoura tomorrow). All children are asked to bring a non-perishable item suitable to go in a festive hamper or a gold coin please.

All forms, sold or unsold need to be returned to the office by **9am on Friday 9th December**. The raffle will be drawn that morning. All proceeds go back to the school for really useful stuff!

If anyone has any baskets or attractive packaging for the hampers we'd love these, please pass in to the office. Thank you in advance for your support.

Community Notices

(Notices placed here are contingent on space and do not reflect the views or opinions of the school.)

Bingo in Brighton

Ethel & Bethel Bingo in Brighton!

7pm, Saturday 10th December, Roy Stokes Hall.

Book your sitters and dust off your curlers!

This will be an awesome evening of entertainment with Ethel & Bethel Bingo babes!! And all helping New Brighton help itself.

Tickets on sale at Bin Inn New Brighton and on Trade Me.

This is an R18 event with licensed cash bar operating.

Tickets \$20 each, includes light supper

This is a Fundraising event for S.U.R.F. Community Trust's 28 Day Projects (the beach wheelchairs etc). It is also raising funds for Christchurch Circus Trust.

During the evening we will have a wide variety of awesome raffles, giveaways, and auctions for you to participate in and have some FUN!

If you have a product, voucher, service, artwork...that you would like to donate to this fundraising evening, please...message us, or email surfcommunitytrust@gmail.com to organise pickup/delivery - thankyou very much for your support!

Bin Inn New Brighton and HAPA at The Tannery are both drop off points for any donated goods.

Online Holiday Program | Four weeks of fun!

Become your own music producer with *Activate Music Academy's* Online Holiday Program! We'll workshop your songs, make new friends in the community forum, and get creative to win awesome prizes. Complete beginner? Been making beats for a while? We're going to have a great time making music together! Register and find out more at:

<https://activatemusic.academy/online-holiday-program/>

Active Kids Holiday Programmes

January 2017 registrations now open!

Week one -16 – 20 Jan

CHCH Boys High, Papanui, Lincoln, Swannanoa

Week two -23 -27 Jan

Westburn, Pioneer, Rolleston

Active Kids is an exciting structured programme of sport, physical activity and play for primary school aged children. The programmes are safe and affordable; OSCAR subsidies available. New 8am start at CHCH Boys High and Westburn

Visit our website for full details:

<http://www.sportcanterbury.org.nz/new-zealand/holiday-programmes/>