

Newsletter 3 : 2nd March 2017



From The Principal

Kia ora koutou

Summer is officially over and although it is hard to believe, we are now almost half way through the term. The Year 4-8 swimming sports were held this week and we are now able to put together a team to represent Rāwhiti School at the upcoming Zone Swimming Sports. Next week we have a Duffy Books assembly on Tuesday and a new event, the Junior School Tryathlon, on Thursday afternoon. There is never a quiet day at Rāwhiti!

Learning Conversations

Dates have been set for Learning Conversations in the last week of this term (Monday 10th to Wednesday 12th April). We are making some changes this year based on feedback you have given us.

All whānau will be offered two opportunities throughout the year to attend a Learning Conversation. For children in Years 4-8 these will be at the end of Term 1 and the beginning of Term 3.

Reporting for children in their first three years of school will follow a different schedule. There will be Learning Conversations at the end of each term – and you will be invited to attend in the two terms that best coincide with your child's half and full year anniversary dates. The junior teachers will let you know which terms to make your appointments and how to do that.

Policy Reviews

We use an online service called SchoolDocs to manage all of the board's policies. This term we are reviewing our policy on Cultural Diversity. To participate please follow this process:

- Visit the website <http://rawhiti.schooldocs.co.nz> (There is a direct link to this site from our school website, under the General Information tab.
- Enter the username **rawhiti** and password **East**.
- Click on the Current Review tab.
- Read the policy, then click on the Policy Review button.
- Select the reviewer type 'Parent' and then submit your rating and a comment, if you wish.

If you prefer, you can ask at the office for a paper copy of the policy review form.

We will use the School Notices section of the fortnightly newsletter to inform you of the policies up for review each term.

School Hours

Many of our teachers make an early start to the day as they find the uninterrupted time before school valuable for working on their planning and assessment tasks, or squeezing in additional meetings. We have a number of children who are being dropped at school as early as 7am, and a steady stream of arrivals from 7.30am. If you are choosing to drop your children at school this early please be aware that we are not responsible for them at this hour and cannot provide supervision for them. From 8.30am all teachers are 'on duty' and available to children and parents



I will be on sick leave from next Wednesday for a number of weeks, recovering from surgery. I am hoping to be back before the end of the term. In my absence Paul Wilkinson and Helen Parata will be your key contacts if you need assistance with any matter. Paul and Helen are experienced school leaders and I know that I am leaving you in good hands.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Liz Weir

School Notices

Car Parking

Once again we must ask that parents respect the sign at the gate and not park in the staff car park when dropping off or picking up their children. The exception is vehicles displaying a valid parking permit that allows them to use the two designated disability parking spaces. We have asked this many times before, however we still have parents choosing to endanger children by trying to manoeuvre in the car park at a busy time of the day. This week we have had parents creating an additional line of parking up the centre of the car park, encouraging children to walk in amongst cars reversing out of parks.

We are all responsible for keeping children safe at school. Please do not put your own or other children at risk. Park on the street please.

Spanish Lessons

We have a Rāwhiti parent who is keen to offer Spanish language learning after school on a Wednesday in our library space. These sessions would be best suited to children who have Spanish as a heritage or home language, and are open to whānau from other schools - so please share this message if you know others who fit this criteria. You can contact Leona directly leonitanz@yahoo.co.nz for more information or to register your interest, or email the school office.

Teacher Only Day

A reminder that school will be closed on **Thursday April 13th** for a teacher professional development day. This was advertised last year, but if you missed that information please note this date on your calendar and make an alternative arrangement for your child/children on that day.

Counselling at School

We are pleased to announce that this year we have partnered with Youth Alive Trust to provide a children's counselling service here at school. Sandy is a qualified counsellor who specialises in working with children and she will be working at Rāwhiti School one day a week. We have accessed funds for this service therefore these sessions are **free** for Rāwhiti children.

You can refer your own child for counselling by completing a Referral Form (available from the school office, or on the school website) and dropping it back to the school office.

Out of Zone Enrolments for Term 2

The ballot for Out of Zone enrolments in Term 2 will be held tomorrow (Friday March 3rd) and applications have now closed. Applicants will be notified within two working days of the ballot taking place as to whether or not their application has been successful. Siblings of current students, and those wishing to have a bilingual education are given priority status.

Concerns, Complaints, and Communication

In our experience, when parents have a concern that relates to their child at school - whether it's pastoral, curriculum or staffing in nature – it can be most quickly resolved by talking first to the most appropriate person. In this newsletter you will find a flowchart outlining who the most appropriate person will be. Please do not let a little concern become a major worry – we are always happy to listen and work with you to resolve an issue.

Accounts

A reminder that if you are concerned about paying for the upcoming Year 5/6 camp, or any school expenses please contact Cheryl sooner rather than later to discuss how we may assist you.



What's coming up

2nd March: BOT Meeting 6.30pm -8.30pm

7th March: Duffy Theatre Assembly 11-00am

9th March: Junior Tryathlon – afternoon

10th March: Junior Assembly 9.00am-10.00am

13th March: HPV Vaccinations Y7&8 – 9.00am -10.00am

15th March: Swim Zones 9.00am – 2.00pm

School Notices

Our North Beach neighbours

We are lucky enough to have North Beach Community Preschool located on our school site and part of our wider school whānau. We have established a genuine and connected relationship with the centre and enjoy seeing their young children accessing our school site frequently; from playing and exploring in our grounds, visiting our Library, joining in with Kapahaka practices, visiting assemblies and riding their bikes on our track. Tuakana-teina relationships are embraced with many opportunities for our older students to visit the preschool to share their learning and develop friendships. At times, small groups of our students are welcomed into the preschool outdoor area during break times to interact with the younger children. We are looking at how we can work with the preschool to share resources, staff expertise and to continue developing this relationship with our early childhood neighbours.



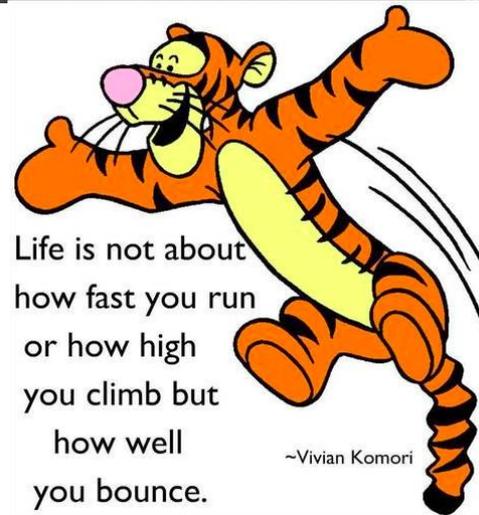


RISE Values.

At Rāwhiti School we **RISE** above the ordinary by valuing:

- Resilience
- Integrity
- Success
- Empathy

Here is a great quote about Resilience.



Life is not about
how fast you run
or how high
you climb but
how well
you bounce.

~Vivian Komori

Road works in Leaver Tce

City Care have informed us that they will be starting to repair some of the pipe work in Leaver Tce. from Monday 6th March hoping to finish by Thursday 9th. They will attempt to minimise the impact on families dropping off or picking up children by taking a break in their work around the 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. times to avoid the busiest traffic times for us. We thank you in advance for being considerate and careful as you drive near the school during this time. You may like to consider parking or dropping children off a bit further away and walking to cut down on congestion.

Lost Polar Fleece

Shayde T or Shayde Tomkins is written on the white label on the inside of his polo fleece – two are missing. Can you please check your child's to ensure they have not incorrectly picked them up. Thank you

Community Notices

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

Missing Drone

Missing Drone. Last week my daughter and I were down at Rāwhiti School flying her new drone. It went up high and over the fence on the left of the school. If you have any information or have found this in your backyard, we would love to get it back. Contact Janine Ph 3888500



New Brighton Netball Registrations are now open.

Do you or your child want to play netball this season? Below is the link to register for the season <http://www.sporty.co.nz/newbrightonnc>

Please note junior registrations (yr 3 - U17's) close Sunday 4th March. We are family friendly club with great community spirit and affordable subs. Please contact newbrightonnetball@gmail.com for further information.

Parklands Bowling Club is running the Fast Double 5 bowls event for school aged children in years 5/6 and 7/8.

There are 3 consecutive rounds on, **Sunday 12th March, Sunday 19th March and Sunday the 27th of March from 10am till 12noon.**

Please register your team of 2 or 3 students via the Bowls Canterbury

website: <http://www.burnsidebowlingclub.com/CentreEntries/CentreFastDoubleFives.html>

Any questions please contact Emily at Bowls Canterbury development@bowlscanterbury.co.nz



TimberNook –provides innovative nature-based programmes for children designed to foster creativity, imagination & play in the great outdoors.

TimberNook programmers are now offered in Christchurch! Amazing outdoor experiences in a natural setting – Cracroft Guide Centre (151 Cashmere Road). Limited places for Tiny Ones preschool playgroups, Going Wild weekend club, a range of school holiday programs, special events & birthday parties. To view programs visit <http://www.timbernook.com> or contact Kim via email Kim.Tenebaum@timbernook.com, 027 9340409, fb TimberNook Christchurch NZ South

TimberNook doesn't entertain – we empower!

Rāwhiti School Recommended Communication Procedure for Parents

In our experience, when parents have a concern that relates to their child at school, whether it's pastoral, curriculum or staffing in nature, many of these concerns can often be most quickly resolved by talking first to the most appropriate person. This flowchart outlines who the most appropriate person will be.

Learning Concerns	Pastoral Concerns	Concern relating to particular learning or physical needs.	Issues relating to staff	Concerns & Queries relating to school school accounts and finances
	<p><i>Pastoral care covers our support of your child's individual needs, their emotional wellbeing and helping them with any personal problems they may be experiencing at school.</i></p>	<p><i>Where a concern is related to a special need and you feel an adjustment may be required to support successful learning e.g. issues related to ASD (autistic spectrum disorders), dyslexia or dyspraxia or physical disabilities</i></p>		
<p>Please raise your concern with your child's Key Teacher in the first instance.</p>	<p>Please raise your concern with your child's Key Teacher in the first instance.</p>	<p>Please raise your concern with your child's Key Teacher in the first instance.</p>	<p>Please contact Jan Brennan our Office Administrator who will forward your concern to the most appropriate person.</p>	<p>Please speak to Cheryl Nuthall our Executive Officer.</p>
			<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	
<p>If the Key Teacher is unable to help please contact the Team Leader.</p>		<p>If the Key Teacher is unable to help please arrange an appointment with Lauren McDonnell, our Learning Support Coordinator.</p>		
<p>If the Team Leader is unable to help please contact our Deputy Principals - Paul Wilkinson or Helen Parata.</p>				
<p>Please make an appointment to see Liz Weir, the Principal, if Paul or Helen are unable to help. Appointments can be made by contacting Jan Brennan in the school office, ph 3889519 or email admin@rawhiti.school.nz</p>				
<p>Teachers are available in the Learning Studios between 8.30 and 9am and after school between 3pm – 3:30pm for informal conversations. Please note that Tuesday is Staff Meeting day and teachers will be in meetings from 3.20pm. If you wish to have a more formal meeting with a teacher please make an appointment by emailing the teacher directly. Email addresses can be found on our school website.</p>				