

Newsletter : 1 2nd February 2017



From The Principal

Kia ora koutou

Welcome back to another year of inquiry and discovery at Rāwhiti School. Thanks to all of you who attended the pōwhiri on Tuesday morning when we welcomed 30 new children and whānau to our kura, to give us a starting roll of 519 - our highest yet.

Over the holiday period Rachel Bourke resigned from her teaching position and Jordan Shallcrass has stepped in at very short notice to make up the numbers in the Tane Mahuta teaching team. We wish Rachel all the best in her semi-retirement.

Play @ School

Our Learning theme for 2017 is Play, and it is already proving to be very popular with teachers and children alike. This year we want to teach our children all about the concept of play. Play can mean many different things: to engage in an activity or game for enjoyment and recreation rather than a serious or practical purpose; to amuse oneself by taking part in imaginative games e.g. Play at being pirates; to compete against someone; to be part of a team, especially in a specific position e.g. play Goal Keeper; to make a move when it's your turn; to be cooperative, as in 'play along'; to represent a character in a performance or film; to perform on a musical instrument.

Global School Play Day

Our Term 1 theme is 'Push Play', with a focus on the Health and Physical Education curriculum. To kick off this focus our whole school is taking part in Global School Play Day tomorrow afternoon. Children can bring toys and games from home to play with at school – the only condition being that the toys and games must not require batteries or electricity. This means **no digital devices**. They could bring: board games, dolls, Lego, blocks, trucks, cars, racetracks, playing cards, empty cardboard boxes, jigsaw puzzles, blankets (for forts), social games (charades, Pictionary, etc.)

The concept of Global School Play Day is to encourage children to play freely without adult intervention or structure. Children will be fully supervised for the afternoon, but our teachers must resist the temptation to organize children's play for them! Instead, we will be observing how our children play, who they play with, and where they like to play.

Play, Eat, Learn.

This year we have made a change to the structure of our play and lunch times so that our children have an opportunity to play before they sit down to eat. Traditionally what happens is that children are so keen to get out and play that they do not eat very much of their lunch and then race off to play as soon as they hear the signal. Using research from the USA, and basing our changes on work being done by Dr Kathleen Liberty at the University of Canterbury, our children will now go straight out to play at break times and then come back in to the learning studio to have a supervised eating time with their teachers.



Our school day looks like this:

- 9.00 am Studio Time
- 10.30am Play Time
- 10.50am In class snack time - 'Feed and Read'
- 11.00am Studio Time
- 12 noon Play Time
- 12.20pm Lunch eating time - in studio, supervised by each teachers.
- 12.40pm Studio Time
- 1:40pm Play Time
- 2.00pm Studio Time
- 3.00pm End of Day

What seems to be emerging from the available research is that children eat more and drink more water when the order is reversed. The number of playground behaviour issues also decreases. We will be collecting data on this throughout the year. You might also like to keep an eye on whether or not your child is eating more of the food you pack for them.

Open Night

On Thursday 16th February we will be having an Open Night here at school. The school will be open between 5pm and 7pm for your family to come along – bring your own tea, chat with the teachers in the studios and ask them any questions you may have about how the studio operates, meet new families, and take the opportunity to ride on our bike track, have a swim, or play in our grounds.

Enjoy the long (hot!) weekend.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Liz Weir

What's coming up

6 February: Waitangi Day School Closed

15 February: Walk or Wheel Day

16 February: Open Night 5.00pm – 7.00pm

School Notices

Hello

As you are aware the PTA are doing their major fundraising next weekend at the Coast to Coast Race. A number of people have offered to help with this.

If you are able to help, can you please let me know what time/s would suit you best and the PTA can roster you on, please email pta@rawhiti.school.nz

Friday - after school (help with food prep, loading trailers etc)

Saturday - 9am-1pm

Saturday 1pm-5pm

Saturday 5pm-9pm

The PTA are also asking for donations. More info will come home with the newsletter tomorrow but if you can't make it, maybe you could help in this way. Profits from this fundraiser are going towards playground development at school.

Thanks Rawhiti PTA.

Community Notices

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

Youth Alive Trust Father Son Camp

Sign up now to get your spot on this year's Father Son Camp. Run By Youth Alive Trust, Father Son Camp is a weekend away in the Canterbury High Country spending time with your dad/Y 7/8 boy trying out various outdoor pursuits on offer. Camp is on the 11th/12th March and is \$80 per father son pair. If dad isn't around or you have more than one son that you'd like to bring please contact us to make arrangements to attend. For more information or to sign up head to <http://www.youthalivetrust.org.nz/camps/fsc/> alternatively contact Matt Barnes at matt.barnes@yat.org.nz.

Give Blood

Be a Lifesaver, Give Blood. The NZ Blood Service is holding a mobile blood drive in New Brighton on Wed 15th February, 1-5pm at Grace Vineyard Church, 111 Seaview Rd. To check if you are able to give blood or to book a time to donate, call 0800 GIVE BLOOD (0800 448 325), download the NZ Blood Service app or go onto www.nzblood.co.nz. Remember to eat & drink plenty before you give blood and bring along your donor card or photo ID. New Donors Welcome!



**NEW BRIGHTON
JUNIOR RUGBY 2017**

U6 - U7 RIPPA RUGBY
U8 - U13 TACKLE
U14 - Numbers Depending
U8 & U9 Girls only teams (Numbers Depending)

Upstairs at the Club Rooms, Rawhiti Ave, New Brighton
New players ID is required (Birth Cert or Passport)

SUBS - \$65 per child, includes team photo
\$95 per family up to 3 children / \$20 each child thereafter.



Email: nbrfcjuniors@yahoo.co.nz Contact: Michael Woodrow (03) 382 4475
www.newbrightonrugby.co.nz/jnr-club/

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ALL LOCATED AT SOUTH NEW BRIGHTON PARK, OR
AROUND THE EAST OF CHRISTCHURCH

MONDAY - 9:30AM
TUESDAY - 3:30PM
WEDNESDAY - 9:30AM & 10:00AM
THURSDAY - 6:30PM
FRIDAY - 9:30AM
SATURDAY - 10:00AM

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