

Newsletter 22: 16th December 2016

From The Principal



Kia ora koutou

Thank you to those who attended the assembly on Tuesday night to celebrate the year and to farewell our Year 8 students. Thank you in particular to those who brought junior children along to this event. It is so important for our little ones to see the way we honour our senior students, and to hear their role models speak so positively about their school experiences. A six year old told me yesterday that he is already planning what he is going to say in his leaving speech!!

Congratulations to the following seniors who received awards on Tuesday night:

- Excellence in Literacy: Lucy Handley, Kimiya Hickling, Hollie Houghton
- Excellence in Numeracy: Akasha McKeefry, Alex Hewison
- Service Awards: Tyrone Patterson, Reuben MacDonald, Briar Smith, Campbell de Garnham
- Extraordinary Achievement Award: Sophie Hawley, Autahi Sterling, Marshall Reid, Xander Scott
- Technology Award: Lizzie Bracefield
- Whāia te iti kahurangi Awards: Jadah Coffin, Alex Hewison
- Duffy Mainfreight Award: Hollie Houghton

As I told the audience on Tuesday night, this first year on our new site has been a bit like being the director of an extraordinary show - and I need to thank all of the people who have made the show possible.

The Board of Trustees, both past and present members, are our producers and major sponsors. They make the big decisions about how we design the set and which actors we employ, and come up with the money needed to keep the show on the road. They are followed closely by our truly extraordinary front of house crew – otherwise known as the PTA, who are the connection to our community, the engager of the audience, our marketing machine and the people who draw the crowds. This year they donated \$30,000.00 towards the cost of the new bike track, and found numerous sponsors to help with the purchasing of bikes.

We have a incredible back stage – who are our support staff – our caretakers, cleaners, office support and teacher aides. And then we have our remarkable teaching staff – they are the set designers, orchestrators, composer's, choreographers and special effects team. They are an extraordinary bunch who, without seeking the limelight, are totally dedicated to getting the very best they can out of our little superstars.

A huge heartfelt thank you to every one of you for the part you have played in getting us to where we are now – home.

EXCITING NEWS

We are pleased to be able to announce that funding has been secured to allow our school swimming pool to remain operational during the school holiday period. Eastern Sports (formerly Rāwhiti Community Sport) will be operating the pool on a \$2.00 per swim basis, from Saturday December 17th. There will be a lifeguard on duty at all times. Details can be found further in the newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Rāwhiti whanau a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Ngā mihi nui kia a koutou

Liz Weir
Principal



Principals Awards

Tāne Mahuta: Lucy
Papatuanuku: Declan, Cooper



Reminders

Rāwhiti School 'Goal Setting' Meetings Monday 30th January 2017

We will be starting the 2017 school year with '**Goal Setting**' meetings on Monday 30th January. While this is our first day of school for the year, children are only required to attend for their 'Welcome Home' meeting with their parent/s and teacher.

The Goal Setting meetings are set to start at the following times in each Learning Studio:

- 9 am
- 10 am
- 11 am
- 12 pm

Meetings will run for 45 minutes. You may choose which session you attend and do not need to book in.

Between 1.30pm and 3.30pm teachers will be available in their rooms for those who are unable to get to a morning meeting, or for those of you with larger families who might find it difficult to attend all the meetings in the morning.

We do understand that some of you may find it difficult to attend without having a specific appointment time and you are welcome to arrange this directly with your child's Key Teacher using their school email address as contact. You will find this email address on the letter of introduction from the teachers, and on our school web site.

Meeting Format

Teachers will start the meeting by showing you around the Learning Studios then sharing information about the programme, routines and expectations.

This will be followed by time for children and parents/caregivers to set some transition goals. Teachers will assist with the writing of the goals, which will be recorded and become part of your child's learning profile. These are not parent interviews.

Children do not need to wear uniform for the Goal Setting Meetings.

**SCHOOL WILL BEGIN FOR FULL INSTRUCTION ON TUESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY AT 9AM.
THERE WILL BE A SHORT MIHI WHAKATAU/WELCOME FOR NEW STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES AT
9.15AM.**

Bike Track and Field Closed

Over the Christmas holiday period the back field is being re-leveled and re-seeded, and irrigation is being installed. This work requires the field to be completely fenced off to the public, which means there will be no access to the bike track during this time. This work is expected to begin after the statutory holiday period. We apologise for any inconvenience. We are all looking forward to having a proper field in 2017.

Office Hours January 2017

The school office will be open for new enrolments and uniform orders as follows:

Thursday 26 th January 2017	9.00am – 1.00pm
Friday 27 th January 2017	9.00am – 11.00am

From Monday 30th January 2017 the office will be open from 8.00am.

Stationery – 2017

You will have received your child's stationery list for 2017. There have been a couple of minor changes which you will find on the stationery lists available on the Rāwhiti School website, under General Information. Please check these before your purchase your child's stationery for 2017. We apologise if this has caused any inconvenience. Office Max has been given our stationery lists for their website for you to purchase online if you would like. They hope to have this available to you from Monday 19th December 2016.

Pool News – Rāwhiti Pool Open During Holidays

Eastern Sport's \$2.00 Pool is back for the summer!
December 17th 2016 – January 29th 2017,
11.00am – 6.00pm every day CLOSED Christmas Day
Rāwhiti School Pool – 150 Leaver Terrace.
Cost \$2.00 per person (including spectators)

Eastern Community Sport and Recreation INC www.rawhitcommunity.co.nz www.facebook.com/2dollarpool/

School Notices

Kia ora whanau, hard to believe that the school year is already over and we are getting our delightful children back 24/7! Hooray and ugh in equal measures! What a huge year in the new school buildings and the three 'f's that spring to mind now are friendly, familiar and fit for purpose. A huge thank you to all the teachers who have worked so hard to make the studios a welcoming and positive learning environment for our children. We know you're all exhausted and deserve a well earned break over summer. The PTA volunteers have worked hard this year and it has been totally worth it. We have an amazing new bike track and the pool is back open for business with the kids loving it! Financially, we've done very well this year, largely thanks to the asset sales from the previous merge schools. We'd also like to give a huge shout out to everyone who supported our fundraising events this year: sausage sizzles, quiz nights, kindling sales, hair princess accessories, the Hoedown, and the Christmas raffle. We couldn't have made these successful without your continuing support. As always it's been a real team effort and thank you so much to all the PTA volunteers who have given up their time this year to help out.

Merry Christmas everyone, have a safe and happy holidays.

Christmas Raffle

We had a pretty good response to this year's Christmas raffle and were able to make up 30 festive hampers to give out as prizes following the mufti day. The first prize hamper went to one of our local New Brighton business owners who was pretty chuffed indeed! Some children worked really hard to sell tickets so thank you for your awesome effort. Top sellers and spot prizes were awarded at Thursday's Showcase assembly.

Second hand uniform sale

Rāwhiti School's very first second hand uniform sale will be held the week before the start of Term One on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th January 2017, at 10am - 12pm in the School Hall.

As we have just had one year in the new uniform, we do not have an accumulated stock of second hand uniforms. If you have a child leaving the school or have clothing items you no longer require then please consider donating these to the PTA for the sale. And we'd love any of the black separates on a donation basis.

Additionally, we will offer credit or cash for the **polo shirts** and **fleeces** at the sale. We want to make the prices good value for parents but also raise a little money for the school - so good condition polo shirts will be bought for \$10 and sold for \$15. Polar fleeces bought for \$20 and sold for \$25. Any items in worn condition will be worth somewhat less.

We also hope to have a fresh stock of Hair Princess accessories available at the sale and some sunhats also.

Please contact pta@rawhiti.school.nz if you have any queries or items for sale or donation before the end of the school year.

Goodbye to Weekly Sausage Sizzles

Over the last couple of years at Rāwhiti School we estimate that the PTA has cooked and served over 10,000 sausages & logged more than 1000 volunteer hours to do it. However, with volunteer numbers very low, this is becoming 'too much of an ask' for our current helpers and we've made the decision for the time-being to hang up our BBQ tongs.

So we have to let you know that in 2017 there will be no weekly sausage sizzle lunches at Rāwhiti School.

However, we're not planning to leave you completely in the lurch (I know how much I have personally loved having sandwich-free days) so instead we'll be teaming up with Lunchonline and we're excited to announce that they will provide sushi lunches every Tuesday and Pita Pit lunches each Thursday from Feb 7 next year. (See the attached pdf for all the details you need as well as the menu, or simply go to www.lunchonline.co.nz)

Also remember that Naked Baker is onsite on the other days with a selection of filled rolls, muffins and other bakery goods which you can pick up for your child while grabbing yourself a hot coffee.

And as for the good ol' sausage? Well, once the colder winter weather sets in then we may dust off our tongs on occasion and get the BBQ sizzling again. If you'd be keen to help cook the sausages in the winter months then do please let us know. How often we offer this will be dependent on how many volunteer cooks we have. Just email pta@rawhiti.school.nz.

Finally we do want to say a massive thank you to all the cooks we've had over the years, to our amazing senior student helpers and to all the kids (& teachers) who have supported us by buying a sausage. It's been a pleasure serving you.



Sushi & Pita Pit Lunches

Will be available at Rāwhiti School
EVERY Tuesday & Thursday
Starting Tues 7th Feb 2017

It's simple, all you need to do is register at
www.lunchonline.co.nz



Just 4 Easy Steps to Start

- Register an account (set up a new one)
- Add member/s (set up your child, school & classroom)
NB: you can change classrooms easily next year
- Make a payment (so you have funds in your account)
- Place an order at the start of 2017



Healthy Options



Easy Online Ordering

Bought to you by  lunchonline

www.lunchonline.co.nz or 0800 565 565