

## **From the Principal**

### **Kia ora koutou**

Last week I reported that Nabaska (Year 5) had been selected to be part of the DigiAwards student panel this year, to work collaboratively with other children from around the city in developing both the theme and categories for the 2016 DigiAwards. We are delighted that the “Be the Change” theme developed by Nabaska and her team mates (from Halswell Primary and Cathedral Grammar) was selected by the other panel members as the theme for 2016.

If you have not already done so, please take the time to complete our survey on school camps. We would like to get a good idea of community expectations in regard to school camps to help us create our outdoor education programme. The survey will remain open until next Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, at <http://goo.gl/forms/mbqY6dYxbu>

### **Swimming Sports**

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28 of our best swimmers took part in the Zone Swimming Sports last week, and the following children will be taking part in the Canterbury Champs in April, having come first or second in their zone races:

9 Year Olds: Asha Yates – Shaw, Tom Robertson

10 Year Olds: Josh Coetzee, Sean Templeton, Ciaran Stewart, Freya Carson, Charlotte Bracefield

12 Year Olds: Stella Rihari – Baker, Aroha Kotara

A huge thank you to our swimming sport organisers Jenny Whiteford and Andrew Redmond, who were also tasked with organising the zone sports – not a small job by any means. We are also grateful to Janet and Claire for managing our swimmers on the day, and to the parents who transported children to the zones. Our new, bright orange Rāwhiti swimming caps ensured that everyone knew who was in our team, thanks to Rachael Hemmingway for sourcing these on our behalf. I’m really pleased to be able to let you know that the design for our new sports uniforms is in the final tweaking stages, and we should have our winter sports teams take to the field in their extraordinary new kit next term.

### **Learning Conversations April 11-14**

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In the last week of term we are offering all parents and caregivers the opportunity to make a time for a ‘Learning Conversation’ with your child and their key teacher/s. Learning Conversations are just that – an opportunity for you, your child and a teacher to meet together to discuss the learning that has happened this term. The format may be slightly different in each Learning Studio. Children will be able to share with you how they have managed the challenges of moving to our new site, and teachers will share with you the information they have gathered this term about your child’s learning and achievement. We set aside 30 minutes for each Learning Conversation as we know you will have plenty to talk about!

You can make your bookings on-line by going to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz). The event code you will need is **td9sm**. If you don’t have internet access at home please contact the classroom teacher who will help you make a booking.

### **Scooters at School**

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We have been working through a number of issues relating to children bringing their scooters to school. We are trying to problem solve each issue as it arises, as we would hate to have to ban the use of scooters at school – they are such a great way for our children to burn off energy during the breaks. We have made a change to where our littlest children are storing their scooters to reduce congestion at the end of breaks, and this seems to be working. They are now parking much closer to their learning studios. We have also put a stop to children using the avenue of trees as a scooter race track as it is our main pedestrian access to the school.

Does your child have a lock for their scooter/bike? We have had a number of scooters either going missing or children going home with the wrong scooter by mistake. We are still missing a purple MGP scooter with the name Maia Macbeth on the side. Maia is a pre-schooler and her scooter was only in the grounds for a few minutes at the end of the day. Please check that your child has the right scooter! We strongly recommend that bikes and scooters are locked when brought to school using a cycle lock with a combination (rather than a key which can also get lost). This helps to keep these high cost items secure and will prevent them from going missing.

Enjoy the Easter break and the extended time with your children.

### Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa Liz Weir



These children have shared fantastic work with Liz, Paul or Helen this week.  
Madison  
Dexter  
Jessie-James  
Bella-Rose

## Calendar of Events

### March

25 Good Friday – School Closed  
28 Easter Monday – School Closed  
29 **Easter Tuesday – All Schools Closed**

### April

6 PTA Meeting 7.30  
7 Canterbury Swimming Champs  
BOT Meeting 6.30pm  
8 Assembly 9.15am  
11 - 14 Learning Conversations  
15 Term 1 ends

## School Notices

### Easter Break

School is closed for the Easter break on March 25<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday), March 28<sup>th</sup> (Easter Monday) and also on Easter Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup>. All schools are closed on this Tuesday.



### Smoking Outside the School Gate

Please be considerate of our children when smoking outside the school gate. While there is no smoking on school grounds by law, the footpath is a public space and parents and caregivers are entitled to smoke there. However it is not ideal for our children to have to make their way through groups of smokers to exit the grounds and we receive regular phone calls from parents expressing their concerns.

### Rookwood Ave Roundabout & Bowhill Road Crossing

We had just one response to our request for assistance in helping children safely cross some of the busy roads surrounding the school. We have a trained Kea Crossing patrol at the front of the school morning and afternoon, but need help to monitor what is happening at both the Bowhill Road crossing and the Rookwood Ave roundabout. Please contact [helen@rawhiti.school.nz](mailto:helen@rawhiti.school.nz) if you think you can help. We had senior traffic engineers from the CCC on site today monitoring the end of day traffic movements outside the school.

### Board of Trustees Elections

Have you thought of standing, or know of someone you think should stand for the Board of Trustees at Rāwhiti? If the school was a cruise ship the Board of Trustees would decide the ship's destination. The principal and teaching staff would steer the ship, deciding the best way to reach that destination. Trustee elections are in May of this year and nominations close at noon on Friday the 20th May. Please discuss the role with a Trustee you know (Karen Brandon, Jonny Langley, Jen Evans, Janet Carson, Tammi Martin or Elizabeth Kazmierczak) or make an appointment with me if you have any questions. If you are interested in standing for election, please come along and observe at our next meeting meeting on Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm.

## 2016 School Accounts

You will have received your child's current school account. Funds from School donations are an important part of the school budget and allow us to provide superior resources for our students. Payment of the donation is voluntary. Activity donations go towards the costs of equipment, experiences, and services which are extra to the school's curriculum obligations. They also go towards curriculum based activities which involve a 'take home' component for the student to keep. Rāwhiti School's activity donation is paid per activity. Parents are invoiced for costs relating to sport and class activities, cultural performances, and Technicraft fees for years 7 and 8. The cost of transport to Phillipstown for Technicraft is funded by the Ministry of Education.

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.

## PTA Update

Quiz night is confirmed for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 6.30pm at One Good Horse, Parklands. Cost \$60 per table of six. Keen punters have already snapped up half of the available tables, so to avoid missing out email us soon at [pta@rawhiti.school.nz](mailto:pta@rawhiti.school.nz)

A friendly reminder to those planning to head to the movies at Reading Cinemas The Palms over Easter. Please hand in some vouchers when you buy your tickets - it helps the school earn free movie tickets that can be used as prizes or rewards for students as part of our activities. See attached a 'jpeg' file of the vouchers which you may be able to print at home. If not, there will be spare copies available at the school office. Have a great Easter folks!

## Community Notices

Please note that Skids will be running a program on Easter Tuesday  
Skids Easter Tuesday  
Aranui Primary School Hall  
7am-6.00pm

For more information please contact Tara on 022 183 4763 or Catherine on 022 183 4759

## Parenting Toolbox Courses

“Parenting is the hardest job in the world! It doesn't come with a manual but there are a few hints and tips you can pick up, which may make the job a bit easier for everyone. Consider joining one of 3 Parenting Toolbox Courses with other local parents starting soon in New Brighton, for the Early Years (under 6's), Middle Years (6 - 12) and Teens (12-18). Courses are FREE for residents in Greater New Brighton. Register by emailing: [lynley.garratt@theparentingplace.com](mailto:lynley.garratt@theparentingplace.com) or phone: 03 355 2680 <http://www.theparentingplace.com/toolbox-parenting-courses/>

## April Active Kids Holiday Programmes

Registrations now open

Week 1 - Monday 18 April - Friday 22 April

Week 2 - Tuesday 26 April - Friday 29 April

Active Kids is an exciting structured programme of sport, physical activity and play for primary school aged children. The programmes are safe and affordable; there are a number of programme/venue options to suit you and your children's needs. OSCAR subsidies available.

Visit our website for full details:

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

### On the Pier in New Brighton

"Skate me to the Moon" Lights, music, action

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 5-7pm Families – 7-9pm Night Skate

Free Entry and Free Skate hire.

### Local Personal Trainer

Offering a deal for parents of Rawhiti School.

30min sessions \$15 saving \$30 usually \$45 a session

Small groups 45min-60min sessions \$10 per person

Nutrition available

Get in touch with Laura from Funky Fit Club Ltd 0211929388 using code Rawhiti

### The Happiness Program

Blow your STRESS away and enjoy a better quality of life! Upcoming Art of Living course- The Happiness Program: 20th-24th April (during school holidays). Over 1200 Cantabrians have already benefited from Art of Living's courses involving simple yet effective breathing, mindfulness and relaxation techniques, proven by research, which enable us to let go of stress, gain energy and enjoy huge improvements to our health and well-being. It is important to attend all five sessions: weeknights 6.30pm-9pm, and Sat & Sun 10am- 3.30pm. Course fee: \$250 fully waged; \$150 concession; some free spaces for those experiencing exceptional circumstances due to the earthquakes. Spaces still available. Register online: [www.artofliving.org.nz](http://www.artofliving.org.nz) Enquiries: freephone 0508 ARTOFLIVING (2786354) or email [canterbury@artofliving.org.nz](mailto:canterbury@artofliving.org.nz)

### Free have a go - circus open day

APRIL 16th

10:30 am to 1:30pm

Roy Stokes hall

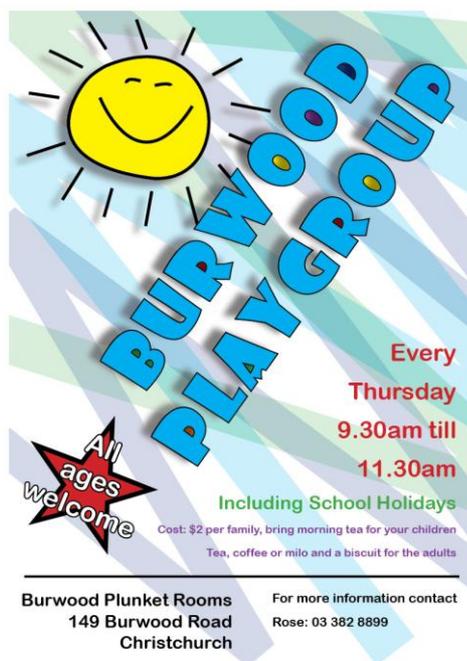
### April holiday circus workshops

Tuesday 19th, Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st

10 am to 12 NOON

\$12 per child per day.

BOOK AT : [circustrust@gmail.com](mailto:circustrust@gmail.com)



**BURWOOD PLAYGROUP**

Every  
Thursday  
9.30am till  
11.30am

Including School Holidays

Cost: \$2 per family, bring morning tea for your children  
Tea, coffee or milo and a biscuit for the adults

All ages welcome

Burwood Plunket Rooms  
149 Burwood Road  
Christchurch

For more information contact  
Rose: 03 382 8899