



From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

Spare a thought for our Year 7/8 students on camp in the hot weather this week. They biked to Spencer Park on Wednesday in 30+ degrees and I heard from one child that the tenting arrangements were similar to sleeping in a microwave oven!

Last week we published the teachers and year levels for 2016. However, I forgot to include some of the other key arrangements for next year. Thanks to some additional staffing from the Ministry of Education to support us through the next stage of the merger process, Paul Wilkinson and Helen Parata will continue to be fully released from classroom teaching duties next year. Lauren McDonnell will carry on in her full time role as Learning Support Coordinator, and Elizabeth Kazmierczak comes out of the classroom to work across the school in her new role as Director of eLearning.

What's Coming Up

You will have noticed these events in the calendar – here are some details about what each involves:

Leavers Assembly: Thursday December 10th 7.00pm – 8.00pm Roy Stokes Hall. This whole school assembly is where we acknowledge and farewell our most senior students as they head off to secondary school. It is also an opportunity for our school community to celebrate our first year of Rāwhiti. All children are expected to be part of this event. Children are to meet their teachers on the Beach base courts at 6.45pm.

Rāwhiti Showcase Assembly: Monday December 14th 1.00 pm. Roy Stokes Hall. Another chance for our choir and Kapa Haka groups to perform, our Beach Base ukulele groups to share what they have learnt, and students who have been having private music lessons at school to share their talents.

Rāwhiti 'Rumbustification': Tuesday December 15th. This is a fun picnic day event organised by the staff to help our children celebrate the end of the school year and the end of being one school on two sites! All the fun will take place on the Beach Base between 10.00am and 2.00pm. Children will come to their home base as usual in the morning and we will bus the QE2 classes to the Beach Base. All of the details for the day will be published in next weeks newsletter.

A Farewell to QE2 Base and Beach Base

While we are all very excited about our impending move to Leaver Terrace, there will be some in our school community who will find it challenging to say a final goodbye to our current sites. We are going to officially mark the end of school life on both the QE2 and Beach Bases on Monday December 14th.

Reverend Wharekawa Ka will conduct a blessing on the QE2 Base at 11.45am, prior to the children being bused to the Beach Base for the Showcase Assembly. Following this assembly, he will conduct a ceremony for the Beach Base, before the children get on the buses to return to the QE2 Base. You are all welcome to be a part of these services – we know that the sites have great meaning for many of you.

School Uniform for 2016

The website for ordering additional items of uniform goes live on Monday 7th December:

<http://rawhitiuniform.bigimpact.co.nz> . If you do not have a credit card then you can pay the school office for any additional items and they will order on your behalf.

Please note that the polo shirts and polar fleeces, (or senior jackets), being provided by the school have already been ordered and will be at the new school for collection from the end of January. Any additional items that you order will be delivered to your home address.

Regulation school sunhats will need to be worn from the beginning of 2016. While these can be ordered from the web site, we will have a large supply of these available for sale at the school office from the end of January. You can purchase one when you collect your new uniform.

The updated uniform list, confirmed by the Board of Trustees, can be found in the School Notices section of this newsletter, and on the school web site.

School Reports and Information for 2016

School reports will be sent home next Friday December 11th. Included in the envelope will be information on your child's placement for 2016, the name of their key teacher, an introduction to the teachers in their learning space, a stationery list, and some details about 2016 starting dates and events at the new school. Please make sure your child gives you the envelope containing this vital information. We will also create a page on our website for you to access all of this information over the holiday period.

Outstanding Activity Fees

Many thanks to those who responded to last week's notice about outstanding activity fees for things like technology, camps, swimming lessons, museum trips and winter sports. There are still thousands of dollars owing for these activities, so if you are in a position to clear these overdue payments before the end of the year we would be very grateful.

December 16 & 17 Alternative Programme

Please let us know by Monday Dec 7th if you need to make use of the alternative programme operating on Wednesday Dec 16th and the morning of Thursday Dec 17th, by emailing admin@rawhiti.school.nz or phoning the school office on 3889519. Confirmed numbers are required for planning.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa Liz Weir

These children have shared fantastic work with Liz, Paul or Helen this week.

- Room Q2: James, Riley, Brooke Wi, Charli, Alex, Toby B, Amy, Freya
- Room Q12: Kingston
- Room Q5/6: Jed, Dajahn, Te Ana
- Room Q8: Isla
- Room Q11: Layton, Noah
- Room Q3/4: Noah



Calendar of Events



- | December | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 7 | Getting ready for Rāwhiti Party |
| 8 | Year 2/3 Fun Run |
| 8 | Year 4 Day trip to Woodend Christian Camp |
| 10 | Leavers Assembly 7pm Roy Stokes |
| 11 | Reports Home |
| 11 | Year 8 Hanmer Springs Day Trip |
| 14 | Rāwhiti Showcase Assembly |
| 15 | Rāwhiti 'Rumbustification' (Picnic Day) |
| 16 | Alternative Programme |
| 17 | Alternative Programme - School finishes 12pm |

School Notices

Year 2/3 Fun Run

Bower Park Tuesday 8th December Fun Run then lunch at Bower Park
Friends and family welcome

Monday 7th December

Getting Ready for Rāwhiti Party, 10.00 am -11.30am, Room 2 on the QE2 Base
Please contact Nicole if your child is starting at Rāwhiti School before March next year and you haven't yet enrolled them. nicolec@rawhiti.school.nz

Canterbury Athletic Sports



Congratulations to the children who represented Rāwhiti School at the Canterbury Athletic Championships on Wednesday in Ashburton: Tui, Te Whaaro, Matanuku, Connor, Finn P, Dru, Josh, Sarah, Finn N, Lucas, Zoya, Hayley, Makayla, Kelli.

Thank you to the brilliant parents and family who came and supported the team. It was fantastically hot in Ashburton but we managed to stay in the shade to watch the competition. The children all competed well and experienced a great day with several thousand other children competing at the top level for their schools. Well done we are proud of your achievement.

Touch Rugby Coaching

Every Monday six of us Year Eights go down to Rawhiti domain to coach touch teams. I find it really awesome getting to coach younger touch teams and coming up with drills to teach them new skills. My year 3/4 team has been progressing really well and we had our first win last week. Not only do we coach touch teams but we also play in our own Year 7/8 touch teams later. Our Year 7/8 team has only lost one game and we are coming first on the table.

Alan, Year 8



The Tremendous Tatty Patchwork Competition

Future Christchurch recently ran a competition for designs to create a TREMENDOUS Tatty Patchwork which will decorate buildings at the Margaret Mahy Family Playground. There were hundreds of entries from Canterbury school children in years 1-8 using a variety of arty and crafty techniques including paint, patchwork, pastels and stick-ons.

We were very excited to hear that Josh (B9) was awarded a 'Commended' for his entry. Therefore we will see his artwork in the new playground when it opens later this month. Congratulations Josh!

PTA Raffle



We had a brilliant response to our mufti day last Friday with hundreds of items donated for the Christmas hamper fundraising raffle. All goods and money have gone into making up a whopping 34 hampers in total.

First prize includes a ham and Christmas cake and all the hampers have a wonderful selection of treats as well as useful items for the cupboard.

Ticket sheets have now gone out to the children so please approach some friendly contacts who might be prepared to buy a ticket (or two) and be in with a really good chance to win Christmas goodies.



We have special prizes for the three children who sell the most tickets including a book voucher and movie tickets, and there will be eight more spot prizes for children who return any ticket sales.

Please remember all sales need to be returned to the school offices by **9.00am next Friday 11 December** and the raffle will be drawn the same day. Extra sheets of tickets are available from both bases.

Rāwhiti School Uniform 2016

Polo Shirts and Jackets

Regulation polo shirts must be worn.

Regulation polar fleece must be worn.

Year 7 & 8 students may choose to wear a regulation polar fleece, or a Rāwhiti Senior jacket.

Lower-half Items

Children can wear plain black lower-half items - shorts, skirts, skorts, tracksuit pants, cargo pants or other school style trousers.

The following are not permitted: Jeans, casual 'drop crotch' pants, items made of lace, leather or vinyl.

Shoes

Students must wear footwear appropriate for school and physical activities e.g. leather school shoes, sandals, sneakers, sports shoes. Jandals, boots, or shoes with high heels are not permitted.

Socks and Tights

Students can wear black or white plain ankle or knee length socks, or plain black tights.

Sunhats

Regulation Rāwhiti sunhats must be worn in Terms One and Four. The school office will always have a supply of these for sale.

Jewellery and piercings

Students may wear: taonga, a watch, ear studs (no hoops or dangling earrings).

Nose piercings are discouraged and nose rings are not permitted. Discreet studs only.

Tongue piercings are not permitted.

Hair and hair accessories

Hair should be kept clean, neat and tidy, and away from the face.

Shoulder length hair must be tied back in a tidy manner by a hair tie or similar.

Hair accessories should be kept to the school colours. No sparkly or multi coloured hair accessories are to be worn.

Hair styles must allow sun hats to be worn in terms one and four.

Makeup

Makeup is not permitted.

Children will be expected to remove non-regulation uniform items on request.

Road Works – Willryan Ave

From Monday 7 December work will begin repairing the road surface on Willryan Avenue.

Work will also begin removing and replacing the kerb on Sandy Avenue, between Bower Avenue and Willryan Avenue. Car parking may be affected by these road works.

Please be patient and adhere to any instructions given by workmen in the area.