

From the Principal

We think that our children look fabulous in their new school uniforms and that they have done a great job of looking smart all term. Actually, we think that the children have been amazing this term – settling in to their new spaces, making new friends, getting to know new teachers, managing the lack of bag storage..... and all the other issues that come with a new site. To acknowledge this there will be a free mufti day for the children next Friday – no uniforms on the last day of term.

Uniforms, Lost Property

Winter is around the corner and so the children will be needing an extra layer of clothing. Our uniform policy allows children to wear a plain black or plain white polyprop top under their school polo shirt. No other colours are permitted and, as per our policy, children will be asked to remove non-regulation items of clothing.

Our Lost Property bin is already full so please name all hats, gloves, coats etc so they don't join the growing pile. The swimming pool has closed for the season and we have a large collection of towels, togs, underwear, goggles, swimming caps – you name it, we have it in the lost property box! If you are missing any items please do have a look before the end of the term. If items have a name we do try to get them back to the owner.

Learning Conversations Next Week

Next week 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 still make your bookings on-line by going to 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, or the office, and they will help you make a booking.

National Standards Data

At the end of last year we collected our first set of whole school student achievement data against the National Standards (NS). Across the school 66% of students were achieving 'At' or 'Above' the NS for Reading, 75% of students 'At or 'Above' NS for Writing, and 72% of students 'At' or 'Above' NS for Maths. Throughout this term teachers have been conducting further standardised testing and have been fully immersed in reviewing this data and identifying ways in which we can build on these results and support groups of targeted students through our Learning Support programmes, to make the transition to achieving National Standards in 2016.

Health and Safety

Health & Safety is currently a big topic for employers as we ensure our practices meet the requirements of the new legislation which came into effect on 04 April. Like all employers, we have been auditing our Health & Safety programme and ensuring that the changes we have made are set in place firmly.

We have a growing number of children who arrive at school well before our grounds officially open at 8:30am each day. The Health & Safety of children on the school site is our responsibility and it is an additional load for staff to be caring for and managing the behaviour of children who arrive early, sometimes before 7:00am. Apart from the

occasional sports practice or early start for a specific school trip, there is no need for children to arrive at school before 8:30am. We'd be very grateful for your support in ensuring that our teachers are able to work in the morning until 8:30am without childcare issues.

Please note a change of start time for the school assembly tomorrow, to accommodate the team from Genesis Energy who will be launching our involvement in the SchoolGen solar energy programme. **Assembly will start at 9.50am.** If you are going to be at school dropping off children in the morning and do not want to go home and then come back for the assembly, you are welcome to read in our library space, or have a cup of tea in our staff lounge.

I hope you all enjoy the upcoming school holidays. It has been a long and tiring term, and everyone has earned a break. We look forward to seeing all the children back safely at the beginning of May.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa
Liz Weir



These children have shared fantastic work with Liz, Paul or Helen this week.
Rongo-mā-tāne: James P, Brooke w, Brooklyn F, Lisa N, Ruby B, Jatin A, Brooke Wo, Cameron B.
Tangaroa: Bailey m/H
Tāna Mahuta: Pepper H

Calendar of Events

April

8 Assembly 9.50 am
Swimming Pool Closes
11 - 14 Learning Conversations
15 Mufti Day - **no cost**
Term 1 ends

May

2 Term 2 starts
4-6 Year 8 camp Peel Forrest
12 PTA Meeting 7.30pm
17 Year 5-8 Cross Country

School Notices

SKIDS Aranui Closing

We have received notification this week that the Aranui Skids before and after school care programme will be closing at the end of this term. The limited demand for their service has reached a level where it is no longer possible for them to sustain the ongoing operations of their programme at Aranui. We understand that Skids clients have been notified directly by the company.

RCSI continues to operate a pick up service from Rāwhiti School, and operate their after school programme on the old Beach Base. If you require information about this service please check our school web site, or contact Jan or Cheryl in the school office.

Traffic Safety

We have an update for you from the City Council traffic engineers regarding some of the traffic issues we have been experiencing.

- **The crossing zone/island area at the end of Leaver Terrace on Rookwood Avenue:** The council will install advance signs warning of school children on the approach to the pedestrian refuge on Rookwood Ave.

- **The pedestrian crossing on Bowhill Road near the hairdressers:** The council observed that when approaching the roundabout from Rookwood Ave the zebra crossing is not visible due to the height of the shrubs planted at the end of Leaver Terrace. They will trim this vegetation down so left turning vehicles from Rookwood Avenue have better forward visibility of the zebra crossing. In addition to this an advance warning sign will be placed on the street light on the bend into Bowhill Road so vehicles heading towards the zebra crossing from any leg of the roundabout are made aware of it.
- **Parents/children/pedestrians using the speed hump on the corner of Grantley Street and Leaver Terrace as a crossing point:** This is an unsafe practice and pedestrians need to use the designated Kea Crossing at all times. The next step is to create a school travel plan working group, 4 or more people to represent the school – this group should include parents and students. We will start work on this in term 2.

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 meeting meeting tonight 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, camp 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.

Needed

The office would love some plastic supermarket bags if you have any spare at home.

Scholastic Books

The scholastic books are all still not here they seem to be arriving in separate orders and on different days. Thanks for your understanding.

Missing Scooter

Ari B has lost her red scooter (named and with a phone number) it went missing from school probably 4 weeks ago now, if found could you please take it to the school's office. Thankyou.

Tangaroa Class

Term one is flying past and we have been planning our big events for the rest of the year. In Tangaroa we like to offer our pupils lots of opportunities and aside from Technology the list is completely optional. There may be other events that occur throughout the year but below is a list of the ones which will incur a significant cost if your child chooses to do them.

Once payment is asked for it can be paid either in whole through internet banking, cash or eft-pos, or by regular weekly payments to ensure this account is cleared by the end of the school year. The bank account number is 03 0814 0000 333 25. Please put your child's name as a reference.

If payment is not possible please contact Cheryl or Jan, 3889 519, to discuss options and how we can assist you.

Term	Event	Proposed Cost
All Year	Technology	\$45
1 & 2	ICAS Tests	\$5 each
2	Year 8 Camp	\$120 total - \$50 per pupil fundraising dependent
2&3	Winter Sport	\$35
3	Ski Trip	\$50 - \$60 (dependent on transport prices)
3	Koru Games (Teams will be selected for this event)	\$30
4	Summer Camp	\$30

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

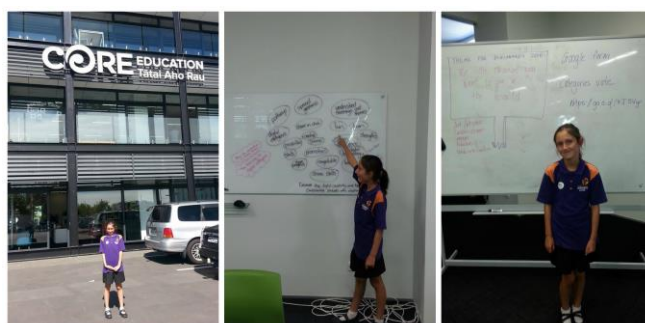
Schoolgen

Parents are invited to a special launching of the Schoolgen programme which will commence at 9.50 tomorrow at assembly in the Hall . We will learn about our solar panels at school and how they work.

Canterbury DigiAwards

On Tuesday 22nd March I went to CORE Education. I was part of a panel to decide what the theme would be for the 2016 DigiAwards. There were about 12 children there from different schools.

We had to write our ideas on sticky notes. I worked with two children and we came up with the idea... *'Be the change you want to see in the world.'* We all had to vote on the different ideas and our idea won. This will be the theme for the 2016 DigiAwards.



Community Notices

On the Pier in New Brighton

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

Friday 8th April 2016 5-7pm Families – 7-9pm Night Skate

Free Entry and Free Skate hire. If raining it will be cancelled.

The Mind Lab by Unitec FREE COMMUNITY OPEN DAY

Please note the Mind Lab by Unitec is open for a free, fun-filled afternoon on Saturday 9th April from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. Please pass this on to anyone you know who would like to visit. Students and teachers are very welcome.

Where: 24 Walker St (near South City) Google map here: <https://goo.gl/maps/LQ7bZWjhFVjM>

Parking: Wilsons Car Park, 2 Wilmer St (marked, The Mind Lab) <https://goo.gl/maps/2kDKy7YveHQ2>

When: 1.30pm – 4.30pm, Saturday 9 April 2016

Cost: FREE

Dental Care over the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will operate an emergency service over the school holidays. You can phone and make an appointment for the emergency clinic by ringing 0800 846 983