



Newsletter #14 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 27 September 2018

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou

The end of term is upon us and I am just waiting now to see the first of the Christmas adverts on the TV.

I don't often get the opportunity to spend a whole day with our children, but last week I was lucky enough to go to the Koru Games – a multi-day, multi-sport tournament for year 7 & 8 children at South Island schools. I attended the opening ceremony and the first day of the touch tournament. I think I might be a wee bit biased, but I think our children do themselves proud at events like this – not just on the field, but also in the way they conduct themselves when representing the school. I received a lovely email from the Deputy Principal at Springston School who refereed the last game for our boys touch team.

“Just wanted to let you know that we played your boys team for 5th and 6th today at touch. I ended up refereeing and your boys were left with only 6 players (the rest were playing in the mixed touch finals). I was totally impressed with their attitude throughout the whole game. Never giving up and we ended in a draw - a real credit since we had 12 players and their team only had 6!) There was one boy who led the team and I was impressed with how he encouraged the others. The whole team were a credit to your school. Please pass on my congratulations to the boys.”

I would also like to congratulate the following teams and their coaches for placing first overall in their grades in the recent Friday Winter Sports tournament:

The Year 5/6 Hockey Blues team
The Year 7/8 Hockey Rams team
The Year 5/6 Table Tennis team.

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Mark Your Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 28th Loud Shirt/Superhero mufti day
- 28th Whole school assembly
- 28th Parent Pop Ins (after assembly)
- 28th Rongo Ma Tane trip to Thompson park
- 28th Papatuanuku trip to QEII
- 28th Last day of Term 3

- 30th Daylight savings begins



OCTOBER

- 15th First day Term 4
- 16th Tangaroa— Rutherford's Den & Scape Art trip
- 17th Cut-off for Out of Zone applications
- 19th Out of Zone applications advised
- 22nd Labour Day—school closed
- 29th Tokelau Language Week



From The Principal continued ...

All our winter sport teams had a fantastic season and proudly represented Rāwhiti School. You can see a full round up of results further on in this newsletter.

Out of Zone Enrolments

Because of the risk of overcrowding, the Board of Trustees is only accepting applications for Out of Zone enrolments for children who currently have a sibling at Rāwhiti School. If you live out of zone and you have a five year old due to start school in Term 1 of 2019 you MUST fill in an application for inclusion in the Term 4 ballot. Applications close at midday on 17th October, and the ballot will be held on Friday October 19th. You can get a copy of the application form from our website, or by contacting Kim in the school office.

If you live in our school zone and have a child starting school next year, it is never too early to enrol your child. Completing an enrolment form guarantees that your child will not miss out on an invitation to a 'Ready for Rāwhiti' party.

Health and Safety – Holiday Repair Work

During the school holidays a number of property projects will be completed, including major repairs to the concrete hardstand and the roof. If your children are going to be playing at school during the break please make them aware of the need to be mindful of trucks and work vehicles.

Health and Safety – Dogs on School Grounds

Our current policy allows for dogs to be on school grounds provided they are on a leash that is held by an adult. We are aware that after school and on the weekend a number of people ignore this ruling and use the school for exercising their dogs. Earlier in the month there was a nasty incident on school grounds that involved two unleashed dogs attacking a neighbour's pet. Obviously, we are not on site at the weekends to monitor the use of the grounds, and our security cameras do not cover 100% of the grounds. Unleashed animals can pose a real risk to the safety of children playing in our grounds. If you notice unsupervised animals on our grounds, or witness owners deliberately ignoring the rules please take action and report them to the CCC. You can make an online report <https://my.ccc.govt.nz/checkout/multi/form/report-animal-issue/1>. They also have an anytime reporting number which is (03) 9418999. If possible, taking photos of the offending animals and/or their owners is also very helpful for when we file a report.

If the matter is urgent. e.g. a dog attack in progress, then please phone 111.

Canine Educators

On to dogs at school for an entirely different purpose. Next term we will start implementing our 'Canine Educator' programme. Dogs have had a proven record as not only being therapeutic for many students, but as catalysts for developing care and empathy. They also help develop confidence and knowledge when dealing with dogs in a seaside community where dog numbers are very high. Research confirms the huge benefits arising from 'Canine Educators' in schools.



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From The Principal—Canine Educators continued ...

Positive aspects such as the following come from the programme:

- 'Canine Educators' encourage caring and compassion and contribute to a calm classroom environment supporting our special RISE values
- Students have the opportunity to take responsibility for an animal and managing its wellbeing
- Students learn how to keep themselves safe around dogs in a safe environment providing for opportunities for those with fears and anxieties to relax and enjoy canine company
- Dogs never judge and are always keen to be read to and students can talk to the dog.

Each 'Canine Educator' in this programme is owned by a teacher or teacher aide in that Learning Studio and has undertaken training and has passed (graduated) their test based on set criteria. This test was designed by an independent dog obedience judge who is very experienced in this field.

Community Consultation: The future of Rāwhiti School

There is still one more day for you to return your response if you have not already. All responses go in the draw for one of five Palms vouchers which you might like to spend during the holidays.

Lost Property

I have written about this before, but it is worth repeating. Almost daily we receive a message that a child at school has had something 'stolen' - their sweatshirt, shoes, lunch box, or scooter. The thought that someone has taken something that belongs to you is very upsetting for most people and we sometimes deal with very distressed children, and angry parents.

However, in most instances the missing items are quickly located in the Learning Studios or somewhere around the school grounds. When you lose your sweatshirt or scooter, it's not stolen. It could still be in the place you last used it.

Theft by finding occurs when someone who chances upon something that does not appear to have an owner, takes possession of it but fails to take steps to find out whether the item does actually belong to someone. A good example of this is when a scooter is left at school overnight and someone removes it from the school grounds and takes it home for their own use. Or an item of school uniform is found and the name tag of the owner is removed. This happens more often than you would think. Often uniforms are named in more than one place and can still be tracked to their original owner. However we also see examples of where adults have gone to great lengths to remove the identity of the original owner - and I have to wonder what that is teaching our children?

Fortunately for us, most of our community are really good at returning things that a child brings home that does not belong to them. Please encourage your children to return anything that you may find at home that does not belong to them. It's an important lesson to learn, and another good example of acting with Integrity - doing the right thing even though no one is watching. Invariably, things will go missing or be lost at school - but there is never a reason for things to be stolen.

Please enjoy the holiday break with your children and return them safely to us on the 15th of October. Also a reminder that the Tsunami warning sirens will be tested this Sunday at 11am.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, Liz Weir



Principals Awards Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki

Rongo Ma Tane

Malachi x2, George B x2,
Samara, Teri, Sonny, Maeve x2,
Harry, Travis, Lincoln, JT x2,
Stella, Eliza, Benji, Harley, Evie x2, Ben P, Will,
Maia, Hugo, Jamahni, Nyah, Luca, Sam T, Jaimie,
Layla, Lexie, Archer, Zara, Kobe



Papatuanuku

Ella P, Ana, Mason D

Ata Hapara

Nate x2

School Notices – Ngā pānui a te kura

Success@Rāwhiti

Congratulations Kea Noble-Gawn

Kea was selected for the Canterbury Metro East U13 rugby team recently.

Great achievement Kea—well done!



Weetbix Tryathlon

If you've been having trouble accessing the school group, here is a link and QR code to our school group page:



<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=31841&G=68428>

If you have any queries, please contact Amy via email at amyp@rawhiti.school.nz



Koru Games

Last week we participated in the Koru Games. This is a South Island Tournament for Year 7/8 students involving 52 schools, that runs over 3 very active days. We entered teams in touch, football, netball and basketball. All the teams played very, very well, and there were some great skills on display and lots of resilience showing through especially on the last day when there were some tired bodies out there.

We had some great results with mixed touch finishing 4th, boys touch 6th and football 12th. A very big thank you to Claire, Wade, Karen, Vince, Vanessa, Matt and Olivia for all their help with transport and support.

Loud Shirt Day/Superheroes tomorrow

Loud Shirt Day is about raising awareness and funds to support hearing impaired children across NZ. This cause is important to Rāwhiti to acknowledge because we have a number of students across our school who either wear hearing aids, suffer from partial deafness or have hearing difficulties.

The theme this year is Superheroes. Dress up in your favourite costume to help raise awareness of this cause—be loud and be heard!

Gold coin donation please.



Hats Required for Term 4

A reminder that school hats are compulsory in Term 4 and Term 1.



If you need to purchase a hat they are available at the school office for \$12.50 each.

Our Learning Theme

This term has seen our studios involved in all sorts of learning based around the Science curriculum. We have had students classifying and grouping plants and animals, learning about pollination, exploring the medicinal qualities of plants, finding out about different types of rocks and land formations, and solving mysteries using forensic evidence to name just a few.

Next term we are continuing our Identity theme into the Arts curriculum. Studios will be designing, creating, making, marketing, advertising and producing a range of “New Brighton Made” items to share and sell at the PTA Fair at the end of November. We look forward to seeing what they come up with.



Loose Part Shed

We are close to getting our Loose Part Shed ready for Term 4! Our shed will be filled with loose materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. They are materials with no specific set of directions that can be used alone or combined with other materials.



If you have any safe items that would be suitable for children to create and play with, we would love to include them. In particular we are after:

- Flat offcuts of 18-24mm plywood, ideally at least 1/2 metre in width
- Cable reels—small enough for children to pick up and move, but sturdy enough to stand on
- Plastic pipes.

We look forward to seeing all the amazing creations our students come up with!



Update On Teacher Pay/Conditions Negotiations

- Both primary teachers and primary principals have overwhelmingly voted to reject the latest Ministry offer to settle their respective collective agreements.
- The Ministry has again failed to address the critical shortage of teachers in this country.
- Teachers and principals are seeking improvements to student:teacher ratios to enable reduced class sizes and for more time to be spent with each child. The other key claim is to have the teaching profession recognised with appropriate rates of pay which will enable the sector to attract and retain high quality teachers and principals
- Early in Term 4, the union will be conducting another ballot of members to determine what steps will happen next to ensure the Ministry and the Government understand just how urgent and immediate the crisis in teaching supply is and to start talking about realistic remedies. As soon as the result of that ballot is known, we will update you if there is to be further industrial action. While we realise this can be disruptive, we are dealing with issues which require immediate attention.
- Your support to date has been greatly appreciated by our teaching staff. We are all in this profession to do the best we can to provide your children with high-quality education. Unfortunately, under-resourcing of the education sector is impacting on our ability to provide that.
- On a positive note, in response to the issues the union has been raising about the significant extra resource needed to support students with additional learning and behaviour management issues, the Government has announced an intention to seek funding in next year's Budget for a nation-wide service of SENCOs (Special Education Needs Coordinators).

Senior Winter Sports Prizegiving

Congratulations to the following students who received certificates at last weeks sports prize giving:

	Most consistent	Most improved
Circus	Zoe L	Xavier
5/6 Soccer	Jayden H	Cooper H
5/6 Netball	Izzy	Isla
¾ Netball	Angus S	Eden T
¾ Netball	Caitlyn M	Rylee R
¾ Hockey Blues	Corbin S & Jacob	Caitlin M
¾ Hockey Purple	Charlotte	Rylin & Poppy E
¾ Hockey Green	Olive	Nevaeh
¾ Bowls	Madeline T	Maria E
¾ Table tennis	Zack V	Reef W
⅞ Netball A	Shyla	Willow B
⅞ Netball B	Leah A	Nevaeh
⅞ Football	Leyam B	Tyler G
⅞ Football	Kieran L	Josh A
⅞ Hockey	Nathan A	Joey C
⅞ Rugby	Diego T	Tristan
⅞ Table tennis	Matteo	Carmen



happy
holidays!

Community Notices – Ngā pānui a te hapori

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

SCHOOL HOLIDAY OPTIONS

Due to the large number of school holiday activity emails recently received, we have decided to list them here for you rather than try and include all the flyers in the newsletter.

Free Theatre Christchurch (8-13 year olds)

<https://mailchi.mp/24c32b14f431/october-theatre-kids-holiday-programme?e=a4396cad6d>

Christchurch Art Gallery

<https://christchurchartgallery.org.nz/events/?category=family-activity>

Canterbury Volleyball Skills Camp (Y7/8)

<https://www.canterburyvolleyball.org/october-holiday-programme-c1u8w>

Kelly Sports Holiday Programme

https://www.kellysports.co.nz/kelly_events/index

Beauty and the Beast Audition Call – 13th October

<https://act2drama.co.nz/current-events/>

Introduction to DJ'ing

<https://amplify.mymusicstaff.com/Have-a-Go-DJ-Lessons>

Children's Dog Training Classes – 10th October

<http://ncdtc.co.nz/upcoming-shows/>

One Good Horse School Holiday Promo

<https://www.onegoodhorse.co.nz/>

Christchurch School of Music Open Day – 29 September

<https://mailchi.mp/957fa35a420a/christchurch-school-of-music-open-day?e=f670461c47>

Family Friendly Walk in Botanical Gardens – 7th October

<https://www.facebook.com/chchwalkingfestival/>

MASH Kids Holiday Programme

www.mashkids.co.nz

The Breeze Walking Festival: 29th September – 14th October

<https://www.facebook.com/chchwalkingfestival/>

Family Movie Night – 29 September

<https://www.facebook.com/QueensparkCommunityTrust/photos/rpp.397726263631410/2148871551850197/?type=3&theater>