



Newsletter #16 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 31 October 2018

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou

Likely Teachers Strike Wednesday 14 November

As the negotiations with the government have broken down the teachers and principals of NZ have decided to carry on with their industrial actions, which is likely to involve a further strike day on Wednesday November 14th.

There are a number of concerns raised with the government that have not been adequately addressed to date. Our schools have increasing numbers of children with learning and behavioural challenges. These children are not adequately resourced. In fact at Rāwhiti School we spend over double the allocated funding and this is not sustainable. Nor is it enough to ensure these children get equitable outcomes, as well as ensuring other children's learning is not impacted! Across the country we have a huge teacher shortage and this is connected to the issue of pay. Teachers need to be paid for the increasing complexity of their work. New Zealand has a large attrition on rate after five years of teaching. The research shows this is due to a number of factors – increased workloads, the complexity of children without adequate resourcing, society and parental expectations of teachers, and pay rates.

I am ever hopeful that strike action will not be required and I understand that the New Zealand Educational Institute and Ministry of Education have gone into mediation this week. We will keep you informed of all developments, and would like to thank you in advance for your support.

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Mark Your Calendar

NOVEMBER

- 2nd 2019 class placement info due
Y1-3 assembly
- 5th Golf in schools
PTA meeting
- 6th Y4-8 Athletics
Rotary Award dinner
- 7th Board of Trustees meeting
- 9th Whole school assembly
Last day to order school photos
- 14th Y7/8 camp fees due
Possible Strike Day
East Zone athletics
PTA meeting
- 15th Mufti day for PTA Xmas raffle
- 16th School closed—Show Day
- 21-23 Y7/8 camp Spencer Park
- 27th Cluster kapahaka showcase
- 28th Y7/8 Top Team
Getting ready for Rāwhiti party
- 30th PTA Twilight Fair, 4pm-8pm

DECEMBER

- 5th Canterbury athletics
Y4 sleepover at school
BOT meeting
- 6th Y8 Dinner (Youth Alive Trust)
- 7th Report home
Y8 Big Day Out
Junior athletics



From The Principal continued ...

Planning for 2019 Learning Studios

If you feel you need to share any information with us regarding your child's placement in a Learning Studio for 2019 you have until **tomorrow** to let us know. Factors such as student learning style, friends and learning needs will all be taken into account. As there is likely to be new teachers, as well as movement of existing teachers between Learning Studios, we are unable to take requests for specific teachers. However you can let us know the type of teacher and teaching style you think is best for your child. Your opinions will be considered alongside of the information from teachers and input from the children themselves. Please let us know by emailing admin@rawhiti.school.nz no later than Friday 2nd November. All emails will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.

Class Sizes

We are often asked questions about class sizes, so I thought I would take some space here to clarify for you how numbers are determined. There is no such things as a guaranteed class size. Instead, we are funded on a student-teacher ratio. Each year we are allocated a number of teachers based on the school role and the number of children at each year level.

For children in Years 4-8 we are staffed on a ratio of 1 teacher to every 29 children. Our Learning Studios at these levels have 95 children in them, which means each studio is entitled to 3.27 teachers. As a school, we round this number up which means we have 4 teachers in each space – which is actually a ratio of 1 teacher to every 24 children. So, while our spaces are larger than other schools, our children actually have access to more teacher time. I know from my own days of teaching Year 7 and 8 classes it would be rare for me to have less than 32 children in my class. The funding ratio for junior children and children in a bilingual setting is different, which is why we have more teachers in these spaces.

Sunhats

It has been great to see the correct school sun hat being worn by so many students this term. A reminder that school hats are compulsory for students and staff alike in Term 4, any time we are working outside, because we want to keep everyone at school safe from the harmful UV rays. Hats are available from the school office if you do not already have this sorted for the term.

Term 4 Bell Music

Our children are currently skipping back to class to the sounds of 'Oh My My' by local band Nomad. Aasha Mallard, Will McGillivray and Cullen Kiesanowski formed Nomad at school four years ago and they have spent the last couple of years writing and road-testing songs. They have opened for The Vamps, Hanson, Marlon Williams, Fly My Pretties and Dave Dobbyn. Will is an ex North New Brighton School student, and we are really proud to be able to showcase his music in this way. We have really talented musicians here at Rāwhiti School and are really hopeful that we may one day be listening to some of our own home-grown music at the end of each break time!



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*From The Principal continued ...***Loose Part Shed**

Our Loose Part Shed is up and running at break times and is proving to be very popular with children of all ages. In play, loose parts are 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. Children are given opportunities to choose their own objects and materials from the boxes in our outdoor area and turn them into whatever they desire.

We believe that children become involved in play that stimulates their curiosity and gives free reign to their imagination and creativity, and we have seen plenty of examples of this over the past week. Check out the photos on our website and Facebook page.

2019 Teaching Appointments

We are pleased to announce that both Talei Cordes and Paula Redmond will be teaching at Rāwhiti again next year. We also congratulate Courtney Ruske on being appointed to our teaching staff for 2019. We will now work on the composition of the teaching teams for each Learning Studio.

**Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,
Liz Weir**

Principals Awards**Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki****Rongo Ma Tane**

Elijah, Jaxon, Lincoln, Meah, Sophie B, Hugo, Holley, Caleb S x2, Layla, Nyah, AJ x2, Faolan, Kobe, Mira, Ni-ko P, Jake L x2, Harry S, Hunter S, vie, Shanara

**Papatuanuku**

Connor B

Safety at the School Gate

Just a reminder that the speed bump, the coloured red area on the corner of Grantley and Leaver Terrace is NOT a pedestrian crossing. Cars do not have to stop to give way to pedestrians. The safest place to cross is at the designated crossing point outside the main gate. There is a teacher on duty on this crossing before school and at 3pm.

**School Notices – Ngā pānui a te kura****Final Assembly Tuesday 11th December at 6.30pm**

While you are noting dates in your diary, please also set aside the evening of Tuesday 11th December. This special assembly is a whole school event at which we recognise a range of achievements, celebrate our year, and farewell our Year 8 students. It's a chance for us all to acknowledge our senior students and wrap up the year in a collaborative way. All children are expected to be part of this event, which is scheduled for the early evening to allow families to attend.

School Accounts if Child Leaving this year

If you know that your child is leaving this year, we ask that you clear their account before they leave please. We thank you for supporting your child's activities.

PTA Update on School Fair

New Brighton Online recently published 15,000 copies of “A Shore Thing” which is a summer calendar of events in the New Brighton area. The school fair is listed but they put the location of our fair as “Rāwhiti Doman” instead of here at the school. We will put signage in the domain and around the local area to try and redirect anyone, but please correct people if you hear them saying the fair is at the domain.

WHEN: Friday 30th November, 4pm –8pm



WHAT WILL BE AT THE FAIR:

- Food Court (World-famous PTA cooking)
- Entertainment (music and dance)
- Craft stalls (made by the students)
- Cake stall and seedling sales
- Activities and sports (ponies, bouncy castles, dunk tank, fire engine, car rides and more—nothing more than \$2!)
- Second-hand books, clothing and toys
- Chocolate wheel, raffles and more.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Volunteer your time

We'd like to keep the fair as affordable as possible so we're pretty much doing everything ourselves. To achieve this we do need quite a bit of help. We've set up an online roster system where you can go online and see all the jobs we'd like help with, the times needed and info on what you would be asked to do. You can set up your own schedule and it will be emailed to you for your reference later. If things change, you can log back on and change your own roster.

To join up just visit timecounts.org.rawhitipta and click **Join Us** to create an account. Watch a video here for more info: <https://youtu.be/MrF4gkvpJWQ>

Once you're fully logged in you can go to **Opportunities** and click on the **Twilight Fair** area to **Volunteer** for jobs. It works on your mobile too.

If you would like to help out but are not sure what you want to do or can't get online you can simply email pta@rawhiti.school.nz or text Steph on 021-136-5391.

2. Donate something

Here is a list of things we are looking for (and please take note of the dates as we cannot accept some items early):

- Seeds (any you don't need—bring these in soon please)
- Second-hand plant pots or seedling trays
- Seedlings for plants or veges (either self-sown or foraged)

DROP OFF TO ROOM 4 (TANE MAHUTA) IN THE FIRST 2 WEEKS OF TERM 4

- Clean ice-cream containers

DROP OFF TO OFFICE ANY TIME THIS TERM

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PTA UPDATE ON FAIR continued ...

Other items to donate:

- Second-hand books (good condition)
- Second-hand clothing (good condition and clean)
- Second-hand toys (good condition and clean)
- Wrapped bottle of something for 'Mystery Bottle' (unused, no alcohol, not expired)

DROP OFF TO SCHOOL HALL DURING WEEK BEFORE FAIR (26-30 November)

- Cookies, slices or lollies (bring in ice-cream containers) - we will vacuum seal these for you on cake boards

DROP OFF TO HALL KITCHEN WEEK OF FAIR (26-30 November)

- Cakes and cupcakes

DROP OFF TO HALL KITCHEN THE DAY BEFORE FAIR (29 November)

3. Lend Something

We are going to need to borrow some of these:

- Gazebos, marquees or sun shelters
- Slow cookers
- Long outdoor extension power cords
- Ropes and stakes to make temporary fencing

**STUFF TO WIN!**

Look out for some exciting raffles and auctions leading up to and during the Twilight Fair including ...

1. \$10 raffle for an \$1800 Haier fridge plus supermarket vouchers for \$200, plus 9 other prizes!!!
2. Trade Me auctions for big-ticket items
3. \$1 Christmas raffle to win 20+ food hampers
4. Chocolate Wheel with chocolates and plenty of other goodies!
5. \$20 Mystery Buckets with guaranteed prizes in each.

\$10 Raffle Tickets on Sale at the Office

Come into the office if you would like to purchase a \$10 raffle ticket to be in to win a Haier fridge + \$200 voucher, or one of the other 9 great prizes. Winners will be drawn at 7pm on the night of the fair.

OTHER STUFF

We're doing everything we can to make the fair as eco-friendly as we can. Please remember to bring along your own reusable bags and if you can please walk, bike or scoot as parking will be limited.

Please encourage people to come along to our school fair as all the money we raise will be going towards brand-new playground equipment including a large climbing frame. Exciting! See you there!

Email pta@rawhiti.school.nz if you can help—thanks!

Noel Leeming Deal



Noel Leeming has provided us with an opportunity to have a week long event where we are able to fundraise and friends/family of Rāwhiti School get to save on products purchased. If you buy something between 5-11 November 2018, your price will be **COST PRICE + 10% DISCOUNT**. And 2.5% of total sales will go towards Rawhiti School.

All you need is to show this barcode at the counter:



Feel free to share this with your friends and extended family so everyone can benefit and help us. A poster with the deal is available to read on the school office noticeboard.

Loose Part Shed

There has been lots of excitement down at the new Loose Part Shed over the break times. It has been awesome to see what the students come up with, the innovative ways they are using the materials and students working together to create all sorts of creations. We have seen some great forts and huts, cars, boats, thrones just to name a few.

We have been busy collecting items for our shed but we are still on the hunt for other bits and pieces. If you have any of these, please drop them in to the office:

- Bread crates or similar
- Sheets of ply not larger than 1m2
- Sheets of korflute/corrugated plastic (eg real estate signs)
- Plastic pallets.

As Liz mentioned, there are photos on the website and Facebook page of the Loose Part Shed in action.

Weetbix Tryathlon



The school has received ten 50% discount codes for the Weetbix triathlon. If you have not entered and are wanting to enter, please contact Amy on amyp@rawhiti.school.nz to get a discount code—first in first served basis.

Lost skateboard

Winslow in Papatuanuku left his skateboard at school on Friday. If you have seen it, please take it back to his classroom. Thank you!



Golf in Schools



Most of our students have now had lessons from Golf In Schools. They are running a Team Golf Even for kids at the Waimairi Beach Golf Club on Sunday 25th of November.

Team Golf is a great format for young beginners who want to build their confidence on-course in a fun 6-hole team even with shortened tees. Equipment is also available if required.

For more info contact phone Rachel on 3594147 or on Rachel@canterburygolf.co.nz. There is a flyer later in the newsletter.

Year 7 & 8 Camp

The Year 7/8 camp will be at Spencer Park from 21-23 November (week 6) and the cost will be \$45 per student. During their time on camp they will take part in a variety of activities including surfing, forest activities, orienteering, mountain biking, swimming and going to Adrenalin Forest. Adrenalin Forest will be optional as the cost is \$23 per student.

Forms should have come home by now and payment for camp needs to be made by 14 November.

Y7/8 Adrenalin Forest (part of camp)

Adrenalin Forest has been added to all Year 7 & 8's accounts. If your child chooses not to take part your account will be credited accordingly—just let Cheryl or Kim in the office know..

Payment for Adrenalin Forest must be received in full for your child to participate.

Community Notices – Ngā pānui a te hāpori

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

Cowles Basketball Y5—Y8

To register your interest please email cowlesstadium@gmail.com

Please include Childs name/school/year/previous club/contact phone number.

TEAM GOLF SERIES

Team Golf brings kids together for a fun golf experience

14 October - Avenale Golf Club
 28 October - Kaiapoi Golf Club
 4 November - Hanwood Golf Club
 11 November - Rangiora Golf Club
 25 November - Waimairi Beach Golf Club
 2 December - Hororata Golf Club

6 Hole Team Golf - 1.30pm start
 Recommended for young beginners 10 years & under who are newer golf. Play a fun ambience team format on a shortened course.

9 Hole Team Golf - 1.00pm start
 Recommended for kids who have played 9 holes before. Play a mix of team formats on a shortened course.

Registration
 To register visit www.canterburygolf.co.nz and click on the TEAM Golf picture. Limited entries available. \$10 per event.

Contact us for more information on 341 1140

LOVE GOLF

Great format for young beginners who want to build their confidence on-course.
 Open to girls & boys 10 & younger.
 6 or 9 hole options played on a shortened course.
 Equipment available.
 Play in as many events as you like.
 Mum & Dad - come along and be a caddy.

JOIN BOLLYWOOD DANCING

WE'RE LOOKING FOR DANCERS & ACTORS AGED BETWEEN 8-15

CONTACT: hello@bollywooddreams.co.nz

Get involved in a new style of dancing and join a group of more than 10 young individuals.