



Newsletter #18 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 29 November 2018

*E ara ake ana i te ūruhi*  
*Rising Above The Ordinary*

## *From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki*

Kia ora koutou

In this newsletter I am sharing some decisions that have been carefully considered by the board and the leadership team about next year, so please do persevere and read to the end – we'd hate you to miss out on anything important.

It's almost unbelievable that there are only two weeks of school left for 2018. The weather is almost as unbelievable! However, there is nothing that can dampen the spirits of our amazing PTA as they frantically make the final arrangements for our first ever school fair tomorrow. This event will go ahead – rain or shine (we would prefer shine)! The children have been busy all term making amazing craft items to sell, alongside all the other usual fair attractions, and an incredible range of food and events.

### **Staff Congratulations**

A number of our staff are to be congratulated on recent achievements:

**Anna-Belle Graham** and **Caroline Briggs** have both achieved Full Teacher Registration status for the first time.



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## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **NOVEMBER**

30th PTA Twilight Fair, 4pm-8pm

### **DECEMBER**

3rd Last day for Scholastic Book Club orders

Last day to return Christmas Raffle (Red card) and money Pasifika Dinner, 5.30pm

5th "Power of Connecting Seminar" with Sandy, school counsellor

Canterbury athletics Y4 sleepover at school BOT meeting

6th Y8 Dinner (Youth Alive Trust)

7th Reports come home Y8 Big Day Out—Hanmer Junior athletics

11th Leavers assembly

12th Rawhiti Rumbustification Day Mufti day

13th Showcase assembly

14th School finishes 12.15pm



### *From The Principal continued ...*

**Kylie O'Keefe** and **Anna-Belle Graham** have both won positions on the Kā Poupou Reo o Tahu course in 2019 and will each receive fully funded leave for a term to further develop their Māori language. This will be the second year in a row we have had two teachers win positions on this sought after course, which helps us achieve our strategic goal of increasing the number of fluent speakers of te reo on our staff.

**Paul Wilkinson** has been awarded a Ministry of Education Study Scholarship and will be spending next year away from school completing his Masters Degree. Paul's research will focus on the benefits of using a collaborative and proactive approach to help children solve problems that are causing them to exhibit challenging behaviour. While he is on leave for a full year we will still see Paul each week as he will be teaching in the release team for a day each week.

**Eugene Becconsall** has been awarded a place on the 2019 Manaiakalani Innovative Teacher programme and will spend a year investigating ways to accelerate learning outcomes for our young people using the Manaiakalani pedagogy. With only 12 positions available nationwide this is a huge achievement for Eugene and we are very proud to have him involved. Don't worry – he won't be going anywhere! Eugene undertakes this work here at school, supported by experts from around the country. He does get a trip to the Google Summit in Sydney at some stage!

We are really proud of the achievements of these teachers. They reflect the quality teaching staff that we have here at school.

### **2019 Staff**

We have very few staff changes this year. Both **Sue Tait** and **Diane Gowland** are retiring from teaching at the end of the year and we will acknowledge their service to the profession at a number of events over the next few weeks.

**Amy Parish** has won a teaching position at Ohoka School for 2019. Amy has been with us for three years since she graduated from Teachers College. We will miss Amy's enthusiasm and input, especially her involvement with our school sports programme. However, we know Amy will not miss the 45 minute commute every morning and evening and we understand her desire to work closer to home.

In the next section you will see the make-up of each Learning Studio for 2019 along with the teacher placements – so do keep reading.

### **2019 Learning Studios**

The Ministry of Education allocates funding for teaching staff on a ratio of one teacher to every 29 children in Years 4-8. For the last three years the board has funded extra teachers at Rāwhiti School in the Year 4-8 section of the school to allow us to maintain a ratio of one teacher to every 24 children. All schools in Christchurch are reporting higher numbers of children in Years 4-8 with both learning and emotional needs and there is increasing evidence to link this to the age these children were at the time of the 2010/2011 earthquakes.

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***From The Principal continued ...***

We have held high hopes all year that the government would address the issue of class sizes in the current round of contract negotiations. As you are no doubt aware, the government has refused to do this, and this was a major factor for teachers in deciding to take strike action.

After three years it is not sustainable for us to continue funding additional teachers at this level as it has the roll on effect of adding strain in other areas of the school. Therefore we have made the decision to increase our student – teacher ratio to 1:26 in these areas. This is still well below the level we are funded for and therefore still comes at a cost to the school. However, we know that our children continue to be in a much better situation than most – with many schools now well over the 1:30 ratio.

Here's what this change looks like across the school.

Tangaroa (Y7-8): Nogo Sipeli (Team Leader), Andrew Redmond, Sharon Thompson

Tawhirimatea (Y4-6): Urmi Shah (Team Leader), Eugene Becconsall, Sharon Robertson, Paula Redmond.

Tane Mahuta (Y4-6): Alison Beech (Team Leader), Kathy Lumley, Talei Cordes.  
*(Regardless of the number of teachers in each studio, the ratio of teachers to students remain the same.)*

Ata Hapara (Y1-8 Bilingual): Jasmine Stirling (Team Leader), Lauren Yaxley, Kylie O'Keeffe, Anna-Belle Graham

Papatuanuku (Y2-3): Helen Hogarth (Team Leader), Brogan Darby, Louise Wynn, Nigel Stewart, Courtney Ruske

Rongo Ma Tane (Y1-2): Nicole Cunningham (Team Leader), Lisa Handley, Kayla Laking-Anderson, Rachel Beaumont, Judith Boeren.  
*(Judith is off overseas at the end of Term 1 and a replacement teacher will be appointed.)*

**Final School Accounts**

This week you will receive your final school account statement for the year. As of today we still have just on \$12,500 of outstanding activity contributions for school camps, winter sport, performances, class trips, and senior technology. Having to cover this amount as a school will mean that it is likely there will be experiences that we are unable to offer in 2019.

Your contributions for these activities go towards the cost of experiences which are extra to the school's curriculum obligations. We are very mindful of the difficult financial situation some of our families find themselves in and are sensitive to parents who are struggling to afford their contribution to these additional experiences for their children. If you are in a position to be able to clear your account before the end of the school year then we would very much appreciate you doing this. You are most welcome to contact Cheryl in the office to discuss arrangements for managing these costs.

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***From The Principal continued ...***

If you had a child involved in the year 7/8 camp last week you will see on your account that there has been an \$11 credit for the cost of one nights accommodation. If your account is in credit then this amount will be rolled over to 2019. If you have other outstanding costs the \$11 will be off-set against these. Again, please contact Cheryl directly if you have any questions.

**End of Year Events**

There are a number of events scheduled over the next 2 weeks. They are all in the school calendar available on the App and our website. All the usual End of Year functions are there – our Supporters Drinks, the Final Assembly, the Rāwhiti Rumbustification, and the Showcase Assembly.

This year we have added something new to our last day of school. Each Learning Studio will hold a poroporoaki at 11am on Friday December 14<sup>th</sup>. A poroporoaki is a farewell ceremony and can be at the conclusion of a hui or at the end of school year. It is a chance for everyone present to acknowledge and express their thanks, thoughts, feelings and to reflect on the school year that has been, in a face-to-face situation. All parents/caregivers/whanau are invited to attend.

There will be one last newsletter for the year on Thursday 13th December. That newsletter will contain all of the 2019 Start of Year information.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all at our Twilight Fair tomorrow. We know this is going to be a fabulous community event – regardless of the weather!

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

***School Notices – Ngā pānui a te kura*****Canterbury Athletics**

Congratulations to the following children who will be representing our school at the Canterbury Athletics Champs next Wednesday 5th December. Fingers crossed that the sun has arrived by then!

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| • Giovanni Manuseugu | • Miriam Robinson  |
| • Izzy McCone-Kent   | • Ollie Rhodes     |
| • Jack Rhodes        | • Reef Wilson      |
| • Jacob Hubrick      | • Riley De Garnham |
| • Kea Noble-Gawn     | • Tane Pakeha-Heke |
| • Kieran Langley     | • Tom Robertson    |
| • Lauryn Stechman    | • Willow Benjamin  |
| • Leo Nicholls       | • Zack Vanderplas  |
| • Leyam Bolton       | • Zoe Langley      |



## School Notices – Ngā pānui a te kura ... continued

### Final Assembly Tuesday 11th December, 6.30pm

A final reminder that we expect all children to attend our upcoming Final Assembly on December 11<sup>th</sup>, which is scheduled for the early evening to allow families to attend. 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.



### Pasifika Dinner, Monday 3rd December, 5.30pm

E valaau atu ma le faaaloalo ia āiga o le Pasifika group.

*Susu mai. Afio mai. Malu mai*

I le taumafataga ma le faatauaina o le tausaga nei i la matou vasega Pasifika.

E fai i le Aso Gafua le 3rd Tēsema.

Amata i le 5:30 i le afiafi i totonu o le potu faitau.

Faamolemole faafesootai mai le Faiaoga.

Soifua, Anna-Belle ma le vasega Pasifika o Rāwhiti!

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With respect we invite families of our Pasifika group  
*Welcome*

To the meal and celebration of the year by our  
Pasifika class

Where: Monday 3rd December in the library/  
staffroom.

Time: 5:30pm.

Please respond by contacting the teacher by phone  
or email

[annabelleg@rawhiti.school.nz](mailto:annabelleg@rawhiti.school.nz)



From Anna-Belle and the Rāwhiti  
Pasifika group!

## Principals Awards

### Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki



### Rongo Ma Tane

Braxton M, Lilia, Sonny x2, Ihaia,  
Archer, Max M, Evie, Jaxon B,  
Zara, Rocky, Travis, Eliza, Kiarnee, Pax,  
Mason x2, Maniya, Luca H, Jayziah

Well done everyone for your hard work!

## Anonymous Donation



Someone who has recently taken out a mortgage with ASB Bank has nominated Rāwhiti School to be the recipient of the \$500 donation that the bank offers when a new home loan is established.

Our thanks to you and your whanau – whoever you are! And thank you to ASB Bank for their continued support of our school.

## Sports Uniform Returns



There are a number of sports uniforms that are yet to be handed back in so we would very much appreciate you checking at home to see if your child still has one that they should have returned.

Touch and Basketball uniforms will be collected on the last day of their game for Term 4 so please ensure your child has another top to change into after their game. If your child is travelling to the Canterbury Athletics on Wednesday they will hand their uniform in before they return home. Please ensure they have another top with them. If your child went to the Zone Athletics two weeks ago and is not traveling to the Canterbury Athletics they need to return the sports uniform asap.

Thank you for your support with ensuring we have all uniforms returned and ready for another year of representative sport in 2019.



**MADE AWARDS 2018 - Results****Year 7 & 8 Digi Group**

In Term 2 we carried out an inquiry about our Digital Identity. First we surveyed some children from Year 1 to Year 8. We found out the most popular social media sites were Instagram, YouTube and Snapchat. Younger children didn't really know how to go about creating a 'strong' password. We used these survey results to give us an idea for our adverts.



We made two adverts '*The Pass-Bot*' (about passwords) and '*Digital Footprints*.'

**The Pass-Bot** made the comparison with underpants to passwords, for example, changing your underpants (passwords) regularly. We made robots out of cardboard, props and backdrops.



**Digital Footprints** - This advert emphasised how everything you put online is permanent, a step in stone. We used different sized feet to make footprints in the sand at New Brighton beach to show how everything you do makes an impact, young or old.



We entered our advert into the **MADE Awards 2018**. This is a national competition open to all primary and intermediate schools in New Zealand. MADE stands for Movies And Digital Excellence awards and annually has over 400 - 500 entries in various categories.

The Pass-Bot won **1st place in Commercial Year 7-8 category**, which we are all very proud of. The Digital Footprint came 2nd in the Jenny Griggs Creativity Award.

**Judges comment:** 'Pass-Bot was beautifully crafted, technically excellent and simply nice to look at. The level of effort and attention to detail are clear to see in the end result which is visually outstanding.'

**MADE AWARDS 2018 - Results ... continued**

**The Beebot's Adventure** – Get your motor running! Spread over three studios children made roads for the Beebot's to have an adventure of a lifetime! Over 80 roads were created. This documentary was put together by a group of children from Papatūānuku and Ata Hāpara. It showcased the process of making roads for our Beebots to designing 3D printed wagons. We think the Beebots had a wonderful time! Congratulations to everyone involved!

The Beebot's Adventure won **1<sup>st</sup> place in the Interface Documentary category Year 1 to 3.**



**Judges comment:** *'This is an informative and engaging record of the class project, exactly what a great documentary should be. It's well created, edited and produced, with a dash of humour and an inspired choice of music. An excellent effort.'*

By Zoe, Mikayla & Elizabeth K

Read more about The Pass-Bot, Digital Footprints and The Beebot's Adventure - visit our blogs!

**Blogs:**

Joanna - <http://rsbjoannap.blogspot.com>

Milly - <http://rsbmillyc.blogspot.com>

Lewis - <http://rsblewish.blogspot.com>

Elizabeth - <http://rawhitibythesea.blogspot.com>

**YouTube links:**

The Pass-Bot - <https://goo.gl/FWsSkW>

Digital Footprint - <https://goo.gl/mwLq8w>

The Beebot's Adventure - <https://goo.gl/NEAL6V>



**Junior Athletics**

Junior athletics will be on Friday 7th December for all Year 1-3 students.



The Year 2 & 3 students will be participating on the back field from 1pm—3pm.

The New Entrants/Year 1 students will be participating on the front field from 1pm—2pm.

Parents are welcome to come along for a fun afternoon and to encourage the children.

**What children need on the day:**

Sunblock, school sunhat, shoes, shorts suitable for running and jumping activities, drink bottle with water in it (we can't take studio drink bottles outside), and a school jersey just in case the weather changes.

**Rāwhiti Rumbustification' - Wednesday 12th December**

This is a fun, picnic day event to help our children celebrate the end of the school year. All the fun will take place here at school.

Children will come to their Learning Studio as usual in the morning and are allowed to wear mufti. They are also to bring: Togs, rash top and towel, sunblock, morning tea and lunch and their school sunhat.

**Plastic Bags Needed**

If you have any spare plastic bags that you don't want, please drop them off at the school office.

**Watch Found**

A watch was found at Rawhiti Domain Athletics Club after we competed at the Zones.

It is being held at the office if you think the watch is yours.

**The Power Of Connection Seminar, 5th Dec, 9am**

- If only they would listen to me and do as I ask!!
- I really don't know how to get through to them!!

Does this sound familiar??

Often we can try many ways to build deeper connection with our kids but sometimes it just doesn't seem to be working!

This seminar is looking at the power that there is in our children connecting to us as parents. We will look at why this is so important and ways that we can help them to do this - how we can turn things around so that our children are in right relationship with us.

It is about helping you, as the parent, to regain your posture as parent – and to hopefully show you how you are truly the best answer for your child and their development into an amazing human being.

**Where:** Here at Rawhiti School

**When:** Wednesday 5 December 9am – 10am

RSVP to school office or by emailing Sandy, our School Counsellor at:  
doorsofhopecounselling@gmail.com

**PAYMENTS REQUIRED—Reminder****Y4 Orana Park—\$25**

This amount needs to be paid by **Mon 3rd December** if your child is intending on going.

**Y8 Hanmer Day Out—\$15**

This payment needs to be made before **Wed 5th December** if your child is wanting to attend.



## PTA Update on School Fair—Friday 30th November 4pm—8pm

It's all on tomorrow!! Don't forget to bring your cash and remember the fair will be on NO MATTER WHAT THE WEATHER! Eftpos and cash exchange will be available at the office if needed.

### 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.

### 1. VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!!!

If you can help out, especially at the end of the night to help pack up, the PTA would really appreciate this. If you arrive on Friday and can help but haven't registered, please just look for someone with a high-vis vest and ask if you can help out anywhere.



If you want to lock in a time and activity to help with, visit [timecounts.org.rawhitipta](https://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](mailto:pta@rawhiti.school.nz) or text Steph on 021-136-5391.

### 2. Donate something

Items to donate that can be dropped off at the school hall:

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

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**PTA UPDATE ON FAIR continued ...****3. Lend Something**

We are going to need to borrow some of these:

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

**TRADE-ME AUCTIONS**

Go online to bid on some auctions of larger ticket items donated to the Fair. Search for Rawhiti Fair on Trade-Me or follow this link:

<https://www.trademe.co.nz/Members/Listings.aspx?member=5854757>

**STUFF TO WIN!**

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

1. \$5 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.

**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](mailto:pta@rawhiti.school.nz) if you can help—thanks!

**School Environment Awards**

Congratulations to our caretakers George and Georgina, and the students who received awards last week as part of the "Keep Christchurch Beautiful" programme run and judged by the Council.

We were awarded:

- John Macaulay Award for 20 years participation
- Caretakers Awards, in recognition of their contribution to maintaining and improving the school environment
- Highly Commended, for our school grounds

