



Newsletter #11 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 22 May 2020

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou

Welcome back! It has been a smooth return to school for most of our tamariki and we very much appreciate the work parents had done in preparing children to transition back to school after seven weeks. There was always potential for this to be tricky for some, but it has been a very seamless and enjoyable process for the majority of children. The focus here has been on re-establishing routines and structures, re-connecting with teachers and friends, as well as creative and physical learning activities. We know from research on post traumatic events that this is the best way to integrate tamariki back into school.

A special congratulations to our tamariki who have shown great resilience and independence this week coming to school.



We also want to sincerely thank all of you for your support of the current start and end of day procedures – we are very happy with the way these are running. There is nowhere near the congestion that we thought there might be – thanks to all of you managing the 'kiss and drop' routine. Our teachers have been able to give their full attention to the children at the beginning of each day, and it is great to see children head straight into their Studio before 9am and get started on the learning activities for the day.

continues on next page ...



Mark Your Calendar

MAY

25th Samoan Language Week

JUNE

1st SCHOOL CLOSED—Queen's Birthday Holiday

2-4 Learning Conversations (Face-to-face meetings)

9-11 Learning Conversations (Video or Phone Call)

JULY

3rd Last Day of Term 2



From The Principal continued ...

We know some of you are concerned about what will happen if it rains. There is no need for children to wait outside the gate in the rain provided they arrive after 8.30am. We currently have a very small number of children, who make their own way to school in the morning, arriving way too early. These children need to stay home in the warm for a few more minutes and then make their way to school.

A huge thank you to all of the Rāwhiti staff who played their part supporting tamariki during the seven weeks of Alert Level 3 and 4. Thank you to the amazing teaching staff who really worked hard to help us connect and map the wellbeing and learning of our tamariki. I enjoyed reading all of the blog posts and seeing videos of the creative learning that was taking place at home. Thanks also to our Board of Trustees for their ongoing support and a final thank you to you, our whanau. I know that there were testing times for some but we appreciate the support you have given us over this extraordinary time.

‘Check In Chat’ Opportunity

At the end of the first term we would normally host a round of 3-way ‘Learning Conversations’ (aka Parent Interviews). For obvious reasons these could not be held.

We know that many of you are keen to talk to the teachers about your child’s experiences during lockdown and how they managed the distance learning requirements, and so we would like to provide an opportunity for you to do this over the 2 weeks starting Tuesday June 2nd.

On June 2nd, 3rd and 4th you can book a 20 minute face-to-face appointment here at school, between 3.20pm and 5.00pm.

The following week (June 9th, 10th, 11th) teachers will be taking bookings for virtual meetings (either Google Meets or phone calls) for those who find it difficult to get in to school.

Booking is via our usual online system at School Interviews. Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the code **ujyyp**. Or [CLICK HERE](#) to go directly to School Interviews website.

Will Parents Be Able to Enter the School Grounds Next Week?

As we need to maintain a register of contact to ensure we can trace those on-site we are asking that all parents remain off-site while we are in Alert Level 2. If for any reason you need to come into the school you cannot enter buildings or classrooms without prior arrangement. You must make an appointment by phoning the office ahead of time or attending the office during its opening hours only. For regulatory contact tracing purposes, please expect your details will be recorded if you do enter the office building. If you need to make contact with your child throughout the day, PLEASE make contact with the school office not via your child’s teacher.

Noho ora mai
Liz Weir, Principal

Principals Awards *Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki*



Before we went into lockdown the following students received a Principals Award.

Rongo-mā-tāne

Geordie
Nishil
Ashley

Community Dental Service

We now have the CDHB Mobile Dental Clinic on site. As you will understand, the recent Level 3 and 4 restrictions interrupted the usual dental screening programme, and the staff are now working hard to ensure that they catch up with all children needing a dental assessment.

It is completely safe to visit the Mobile Dental Clinic in Level 2. Staff in the van will be adhering to well-tested infection prevention and control protocols and all vans and facilities will be fully equipped with personal protective equipment. Details of all children visiting the van will be recorded for possible contact tracing. All equipment will be sterilised between each patient or is disposable – this is part of the regular procedures. All surfaces are wiped between patients and a thorough clean happens daily. Children will clean their hands with hand sanitiser when they enter and leave the van.



Can Children Attend School When They Are Unwell? from the Ministry of Health

Here is the latest information from the Ministry of Health in regards to children attending school. Please take the time to read this as it answers a number of the questions that we are regularly hearing.

Children who are unwell should not attend school and they should not return to school until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours. This applies to infectious respiratory and gastrointestinal diseases, and vaccine preventable diseases. If their illness is not an infectious one, for example, it results from an injury or a chronic disease like diabetes, and they are well enough to attend school then they can do so.

COVID-19 like symptoms will be very common over the winter and the vast majority of children with those symptoms won't have COVID-19. So, the advice to parents whose children have symptoms of cough, fever, sore throat and/or runny nose and sneezing is for them to **keep their child at home until they have been symptom free for 48 hours.**

If you do see a GP or call Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and your child is swabbed then they will need to be isolated at home until they have their result. They can return to school if their result is negative and they have been symptom-free for 48 hours. **In most situations, the rest of their household do not also need to self-isolate.** That means that siblings of the ill child, regardless of where they go to school, can attend school while the test result for the ill child is awaited. **The only exception is if the child being tested is a symptomatic close contact of a case. In that case, we ask that their household members do self-isolate while awaiting the test result.**

KIWI COMPETITIONS FOR YEAR 5-8 STUDENTS

The University of Canterbury is delighted to offer the Great Kiwi English, Mathematics and Science competitions for Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary schools. The Kiwi competitions are written by New Zealand teachers for New Zealand students and are based on the New Zealand Curriculum.

The online competitions will be run in the first three weeks of Term 3. All participating students will be awarded a certificate and prizes will be awarded to top students in each year group. The cost for a student to participate is \$5.00 per competition entered.



Students who are interested in participating in these competitions will receive a letter with further information. Entries must be received by Wednesday 3rd June. Please contact helen@rawhiti.school.nz if you have any questions.

SUCCESS@RAWHITI

Congratulations to Pax who won the Under 8 Club Championships for North Beach Surf Life-saving Club, including a bronze in the Canterbury Champs and a bronze in the Southern Champs this summer season. Great work Pax!



Here's what some of the students have been up to this week!



Here's what some of the students have been up to this week!





Here's what some of the students have been up to this week!

