

**Newsletter #24 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 17 December 2020*****E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary******From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki***

Kia ora koutou, School years go by in a blur at the best of times but it's hard to fully grasp how quickly December has rolled around this year. It feels as though it went January, February, March, Covid, December.

This year, we have all had to learn to manage the D's. For us in Christchurch, it feels like Disruption is our middle name! And this year we have had to learn to live with its close cousin Disappointment. Many of our children have missed out on planned trips, camps, and holidays.

We have, however, had the opportunity to re-acquaint ourselves with the card and board games that we grew up with, brush up on our cooking skills, and do a few jigsaw puzzles and the odd Netflix series. We got our heads around distance learning, Zooms, and Google Meets - so that we could stay connected rather than grow apart.

Over the past six years we have developed a team at Rāwhiti that thrives on change and progress - and thank goodness they do. It's a growing team - made up of the Board of Trustees, the PTA, parents/whanau and the wider Brighton community, the staff of the school and last, but certainly not least - the children - all 598 of them! While I wish to thank every single member of our team for their contribution to our school this year - I need to give a 'gold star' to our Rāwhiti staff this year for their professionalism,

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**Mark Your
Calendar****FEBRUARY 2021**

- 2nd Goal Setting Day
- 3rd First Day of Classes and
School Lunch Programme
Starts
- 8th SCHOOL CLOSED -
Waitangi Day Holiday



From The Principal continued ...

for caring about ākonga and their families and whānau, and for their seemingly unlimited energy. Much is expected from our staff and, as always, much has been delivered. I am immensely proud of the role played by Rāwhiti staff in extraordinary circumstances this year.

Staff Farewells

This year we farewell two of our teachers, Anna-Belle Graham and Jude Seeto, and thank them for all they have done to support our learners this year. We also say goodbye to Alison Beech, who is leaving us after three years as Team Leader in Tane Mahuta. Alison has built a strong, collaborative and effective team during her time with us, and has had a significant influence on teaching and learning here at school.

Some of our amazing Teacher Aides are also moving on. Scott Gorrie and Phillip Allpress are both moving on to new ventures, and Sharlene Pirikau has won a scholarship to undertake her teacher training in 2021.

In Term 1 of 2021 I will be taking my Ministry of Education Sabbatical Award that was deferred because of the Covid restrictions. I will be spending the term writing up a case study of the three-school merger process here in New Brighton – essentially, the story of Rāwhiti School from its starting point till now. In my absence Paul Wilkinson and Helen Parata will be the Acting Principals.

Ka Ora, Ka Ako - Healthy School Lunches Programme 2021

We are really excited to be joining the free **Healthy School Lunches Programme** from Term 1, 2021.

Lunches at Rāwhiti will be provided by Compass Group. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) to help Compass in catering for specific dietary requirements.

Here is a **sample menu** from the 2020 lunch programme

We know that some of you will have been particularly affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Offering a lunch for all our children will go some way to helping families and whānau to support their children and tamariki. This is why we have decided to take part in this programme. The lunches will be available for all our students. While we know there are hungry children in every community, we do not always know who they are. Providing a lunch to every child means we do not need to single-out those who need it more than others.

All that is left is to wish you all a Happy Christmas, and safe and relaxing holiday break.

Noho ora mai

Liz Weir, Principal



Principals Awards *Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki*



Rongo-Ma-Tane

Abigail x2, Alice x4, Anton, Azaiah x2, Beau x2, Caelan x2, Carter x2, Charli, Eli x3, Emilie-Vida x2, Gabby, Henry, Indie H x2, Jacob x2, Jamie x2, Jaxon x2, Jesse H, Jesse K x3, Logan x2, Macie x2, Mahalia, Mattis, Nixon x2, Rex, Sam, Tegan x2

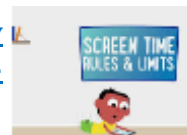
Papatūānuku

Sam T

Healthy Screen Time Habits Over The Holidays

Here are some tips from ySafe cyber safety experts. There is a [great guide to help parents manage their kids' screen time these school holidays](#). Not only is keeping screen time balance over the holidays shown to be [healthy for kids](#), but it will also help with the transition back into school mode at the beginning of term next year.

[CLICK HERE for School Holiday Tips - Healthy Screen Time Habits](#)



Kapa Haka Performance

Well done to our Kapa Haka group that performed at the Carnaby Lane Christmas Market recently.



Keep Collecting For Recycling

The PTA are still collecting bread tags for recycling but next year it's expanding to aluminium can tabs, wine bottle caps and #2 HDPE plastic tops. (See flyer later in newsletter)



ALL Lids & Caps to please be rinsed and dried before donating



Please no plastic caps larger than a Marmite jar

Rāwhiti A&P Show

What a successful day our recent A&P Show Day was. There were so many entries to all the categories and we could tell that lots of work had been put into entries at home and in class. It was a very tough decision for the Judges. So hard that they had to award some separate certificates, but please find a list of Best In Show winners as recorded by our lovely Judges (pictures can be found on [our Facebook Page](#)):

Animal Art Will Pax Sophie Tabitha Tess Minttu Johno Ashlea	Pressed Flower Shafrin Kiwa Eartha Molly Teri Garden Ornament Charli & Kobe Joel	Sand Saucer Freida James D Harley Benji Toby Greta Nikita	Grow A Logo Elvis Bottle Glasshouse Teri & Charlotte  
Driftwood Sculpture Ashur Isla Louis Marlee Cole JT Niko Azaiah	Posy Joel Daisy-Jaye Lexi Charlotte Garden Art Kowhai & Oliver Layana & Abigail	Cupcakes Niko Samara Anika Jordan Charlotte Zara, Violet & Zoey Maiah & Ava	Pallet Planter Carter Tallest Sunflower Oliver
Origami Adam Rylin & Robbie Ava, Maia & Kaeden Aukaha Phoenix Stella Ihaia	Bird Feeder Jennifer Homegrown Veges/Fruit Emilie-Vida Scarecrow James D   	Nature Pet Oliver, Duke, Jack Action Pet Stella, Pax, Skye Pet Portrait Skye, Daisy-Jaye, Duke	Bubble Pet Samuel Pet Tricks Phoenix Ihaia

Rawhiti School Office

Bread Tag recycling area is expanding in 2021

Not only will this area include the collection of
BREAD TAGS but also the collection of
ALUMINIUM CAN TABS, WINE BOTTLE CAPS
AND ALL #2 HDPE PLASTIC TOPS.



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Please no plastic caps larger than a Marnite Jar

We will be a collection point to support:



Please have a safe and sensible summer break.
If you come across any of the collectable items
please pop them aside and bring them in next year.

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted.

This initiative is overseen by the Rawhiti School PTA.
pta@rawhiti.school.nz

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.)



XRace

Ever thought about doing the XRace with your kids? We have some students at Rāwhiti that are XRace Ambassadors and we are fortunate to have a discount code for doing the race.

It will be held on Sunday 7th March 2021 at 10am at Thomson Park.

Go to www.xrace.co.nz for more details