

Newsletter #: 13- Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: ²⁰August 2021 *E ara ake ana i te ūruhi Rising Above The Ordinary*

From The Principal—Te Pu kāea a te Tumuaki



He mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa - Warm greetings to all.

I hope you are all well in your bubbles. We know that everyone was disappointed about missing the book character dress up day on Wednesday - so we really loved seeing all of the dress-up photos that you sent in to the teachers.

Like all of you, our school staff are awaiting an announcement from the Prime Minister at 3pm today regarding any changes to the current Covid Alert Levels. Please remember that we do not get any information in advance of these public announcements - and so there will be no update from the school until after our whole staff have met (virtually, or course) at 3.30pm today.

We have been here before, and those of you that were with us during Lockdown last year will remember that we moved seamlessly into an online model of distance learning and adjusted our arrangements as the Alert Levels changed. Our staff are ready to do the same again and I have every confidence they will do an amazing job.

For those of you that are new to our school since Lockdown 2020 we are well set up to provide distance learning and will provide you with all the details about how to access this over the next couple of days.

Here are our tentative plans for each of the Alert Levels:

Level 4

School will remain closed. Learning will continue to be delivered through the Learning Studio sites and children will connect with their teachers via Google Meets, which will begin on Tuesday. Learning packs and/or school owned devices may be distributed and a survey will be sent later today to determine your needs. Arrangements for collection will be advised.

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From The Principal—Te Pu kāea a te Tumuaki ...continued

Level 3

School will remain closed. Learning will continue to be delivered through the Learning Studio sites, and children will connect with their teachers via Google Meets, which will begin on Tuesday.

Learning packs and/or school owned devices may be distributed and a survey will be sent later today to determine your needs. Arrangements for collection will be advised.

'Bubble School' will be open for the children of essential workers only. A survey will be sent once an announcement is made. School lunches will not be provided at Bubble School and any children who are unwell will not be able to attend.

Level 2

Under Level 2, all children are able to return to school but as this variant is highly contagious we will be much stricter about who can enter the school grounds. You will need to drop your child at the gate and we will ensure they get safely to class. We would ask that if we are going to Alert Level 2 that you prepare your child for the drop off. In our previous experience most of our tamariki handled this extremely well. Sick children MUST stay at home, and any children who present at the sick bay will need to be collected. Free school lunches will resume under Level 2.

Level 1

School as usual. Parents will be able to enter the grounds and school events will go ahead. Sick children MUST stay at home, and any children who present at the sick bay will need to be collected.

The 'Non-Covid' News

PTA Book Fair

What a shame that the PTA Bookfair had to be cut short this week. In the first two days whanau spent over \$2500 on books - so this was looking like a fantastic fundraiser for the PTA. We are hopeful that we will be able to 're-open' the book fair at some stage - it will all depend on what Alert Level we are operating in.

New Classrooms

With our school roll currently sitting at 599 we are delighted to have received news this term from the Ministry of Education that we are to receive additional classroom spaces in the new school year. These will be relocatable buildings and we are currently working with the MoE to determine their placement on our site. If our numbers stay at this level, the MoE will look to build permanent spaces, which would be really exciting. In the meantime, we are pleased to be getting some additional spaces, and are very grateful that we have such a large school site to accommodate out growing numbers.

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From The Principal—Te Pu kāea a te Tumuaki ...continued

Cohort Entry

As indicated in the last newsletter, our Board of Trustees is considering adopting a Cohort Entry policy for children starting school at 5.

Cohort entry is when new entrants start school in groups through the year rather than on their fifth birthday. There are 2 entry dates in each school term that are determined by the Ministry of Education - one on the first day of term and one at a mid-point during a term. No child is able to start school before they turn 5. Cohort entry is about helping children to settle better in school. There is evidence that starting school alongside other children helps them build relationships and supports a smoother entry to school life. Schools that are already using cohort entry believe it offers their children the best start to their school life. It can also mean less disruption for new entrant teachers who can prepare for groups of children arriving on a specific date rather than on an individual and ad hoc basis through the year.

We are keen to hear your thoughts on <u>Cohort Entry</u> and would appreciate you taking the time to complete this <u>SHORT QUESTIONNAIRE</u>. (To use this link you'll need to use Chrome and be signed into your gmail.)

Stay home and stay well everyone.

Liz Weir, Principal

Principals Awards Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki



Rongo-mā-tāne

Amelia, Aria C x2, Aria I x2, Blake, Brooklyn x2, Charlie M x2, Charlie W, Edie x3, Freida, Gabby, Grayson, Isaac VDL, Isabel, Isla-Jade, Jericho x2, Lakey, Lily x2, Lulu x2, Lyle, Maddie, Mahalia x3, Mikayla x2, Olive x2, Pearl, Ricky, Tikaia, Toko, Violet x3.



Thanks to those who have completed the questionnaire so far. Manaiakalani and Woolf Fisher Research are keen to hear from you about your child's learning at school if you haven't already. You can complete the short questionnaire <u>here</u> This information is used alongside staff and learner questionnaires to see a picture of reading at Rawhiti, and also how it looks across our wider school cluster. This information will help form the next steps for our staff development.



More info on school opening/closure will be provided later today after the PM has made her announcement



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Rāwhiti School's eBook Library (Wheelers ePlatform)

Children can access over 1,500 eBooks on our Wheelers ePlatform. It is free!

These books will display when searching for books on the Web OPAC (library.rawhiti.school.nz) or you can go to the direct link:

https://rawhitischool.wheelers.co/



eBooks can be issued for two weeks and there is a limit of two eBooks per user. You can even reserve an eBook!

Students will need to use their **library number and password to login** to download eBooks. Look out for a yellow or **orange** piece of paper that will be heading home this week!

If you've lost your library login send an email to library@rawhiti.school.nz

If you have a device you can download the Wheelers ePlatform app! Then search for 'Rawhiti School.'

Download ePlatform App - https://goo.gl/SIC6ft

iOS devices

Download the ePlatform App







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Wig Wednesday—Wednesday 8th September

Hi everyone! I'm Brooke, a year 7 from Rāwhiti School. I'm writing this because I want to tell you about the upcoming event called Wig Wednesday that Rāwhiti School has taken part in over the last few years.

For those of you who don't know what Wig Wednesday is, it's a day where everyone wears a wig or does a funky hairdo for school and brings a donation that will go to The Child Cancer Foundation. This event is important because it fundraises for Kiwi Kids who have cancer.

When I was 1, I was diagnosed with Leukaemia, a type of blood cancer. I had it until I was 4 years old. It was a really hard time for me and my family but I survived.



Ever since then The Child Cancer Foundation has been a charity close to my heart so I introduced the school to Wig Wednesday a couple of years ago.

This event is going to be held on Wednesday the 8th of September this year. Uniform is still to be worn as this day is all about the hair. As usual on the day people will be asked to bring a gold coin donation, but we also have an online donation page if you would like to donate some *extra money now*.

Here is the link to the online donation page: <u>https://wigwednesday.org.nz/helen-parata</u>

Thank you so much! I can't wait to see everyone's funky wig or hair!





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Book Character Dress-Ups

Do you recognise these book characters? We can't wait to see more.



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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.)



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Pirate Day

at the Seaside Market

featuring

Natural Magic Pirates!

Face-painting **Treasure Hunt**

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.)

New Brighton Cricket Club 2021/22 Registrations Experience Christchurch's leading facilities on your doorstep!



We are currently seeking new members to join the New Brighton Cricket Club and benefit from our new state of the art indoor training facilities. Being a foundation member of Eastern Community Sports the New Brighton Cricket Club has access to the new Eastern Community Sports Training Centre on Rawhiti Domain, the latest in community sports initiatives, experts in community sports, state of the art clubrooms and much more exciting developments to come.

Why NBCC?

- Weekly use of new Indoor Training Facilities
- Committed Coaches
- Give it a Go Superstar Academy for 4-6 year olds
- Kiwi Cricket
- Competitive Incredible and Hard Ball Grades
- Affordable subscriptions for the whole family (\$70 1 Child, \$110 2 Children, \$130 3 Children)

Register via cricHQ https://registrations.crichq.com/register/100782 or to discuss your child/children's needs please contact: juniors.nbco@gmail.com





Open