



Newsletter #11 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 1st July 2022

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi

Rising Above The Ordinary

# From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

**Kia ora koutou,** The past fortnight has certainly had its challenges with COVID, the flu, seasonal colds and tummy bugs. Our average daily student absence numbers still sit at over 100, and our staff absence rate is 35 days a fortnight. That's a lot of reliever days!

However, there have been highlights in the gloom!

The annual Dancing Like the Stars performance took place at the Isaac Theatre Royal on Wednesday night and I hear that our children performed like professionals. I was unable to be there as I was attending the graduation ceremony for the Te Ahu o Te Reo Maori language course, where 6 of our staff were recognised for completing the next stage of their te reo learning.

Our cross country team of Joel, Zara, Anika, Lachie, Dylan and Emily took part in the Canterbury competition last week, pushing themselves to their limits, along with the best primary school runners from across the region. You can read about their experience further on in this newsletter.

Our school is part of the Manaiakalani network of over one hundred schools across New Zealand, all working to the Learn Create Share kaupapa. In her latest national newsletter, Dorothy Burt, who oversees the entire Manaiakalani network, specifically mentioned one of our Rāwhiti children. "A highlight of any day for me is to take a few minutes reading what our young people have been sharing online. This blogpost by Addison at Rāwhiti School was a delightful example of Learn Create Share - and the engaging confidence of young people who are 'At Home in a Digital World'."

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### **IULY**

5th Zones Y7/8 Basketball

Tournament

8th Last Day for ICAS Entries

8th Last Day of Term 2

9-24 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

25th First Day of Term 3







# From The Principal continued ...

We received a delightful phone call last week when two of our children were noticed for their positive actions in the community. They were spotted on their way to school, picking up rubbish around the bin and on the road around Domino's Pizza. We know that our children are often noticed outside of school, in their distinctive school uniforms, and we love it when people acknowledge the positives. We don't know who these children were - but they were clearly modeling our school value of Integrity, doing the right thing even when no one is watching - although on this occasion somebody was.





Next week is the last week of the term. We will have children taking part in Epro -8 challenges here at school, in the Year 7-8 Zone Basketball tournament, in the Minecraft eSports tournament, and also the Kiwi exams. After that, everyone will be ready for a break.

We are looking forward to some wider school gatherings in Term 3 - we have not had a whole school assembly all year so it will be lovely to be able to gather everyone together. We are also planning a whole school performance - set to take place in the last week of next term. Something for us all to look forward to.

If you are using the school grounds during the holidays please be mindful that we are a building site at the moment, and that the new classrooms will be craned into place at some stage over the two week break. Be on the alert for increased traffic on our school grounds.

Stay safe, stay well, and we will see you in Term 3.

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

**Principal** 

# Parking Outside School

Please remember to be considerate of our neighbours when you are dropping off and picking up your children. We have had complaints of parents parking over driveways and neighbours haven't been able to get out.

# Principals Awards Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki



## Rongo-mā-tāne

Alira x2, Asha, Autumn x2, Ava M, Ayla x5, Cherish, Crue x3, Elijah x3, Georgia, Harlem x2, Hosea, Isla-Jade, Ivar x4, Izzy x3, Jasmine, Kristian x2, Kyzani, Logan x4, Mason P, Pania x2, Parker x3, Pearl x2, Rosalie, Shayla x3, Taison x2

## Papatūānuku

Charlie W x2, Edie, Gabby, Henry, Jesse K, Logan, Lulu, Maddie H

### **Staff Farewells**

At the end of this term we farewell two of our teaching staff. **Michelle Cochrane** has taught in Rongo-ma-tane for the past three years, and has accepted a position as Head Teacher in an early childhood centre. Michelle's background is in early childhood education, which is why we were so keen to have her join our new entrants teaching team, and we have learned much from her experience, particularly in the area of using learning stories to report on junior school achievement.



Jen Evans is also moving on from both of her roles here at school. Jen has been a part-time teacher here since the school opened, working in the Cool Rise release team. In this role she will have taught almost every child in the school at some stage - and I am sure none of them will forget the

experience. Jen has also been a parent representative on the Board of Trustees since our first ever board elections in 2015. In this role she had a significant influence on the development of our school right from the start, driven by ensuring that the children of the east gained from the merger process. We will miss her passion, her persistence, and her pinkness!

# **Canterbury Cross Country**

On Wednesday the 22nd of June we went to the Canterbury Cross Country. The race was at Nga Puna Wai athletics stadium. There were lots of people there, probably about 2,000 people. In the morning it was freezing cold. The kids that were there from Rāwhiti School were Joel, Zara, Anika, Lachie, Dylan and Emily. The race was 2km for Year 5/6 and 3km for Year 7/8. We felt very puffed like everyone else and breathless when we finished and proud of finishing well. At the end a few kids threw up over the finish line and others were close. We were glad that didn't happen to us.

By Zara and Joel



### School Docs—Hair

Hair should be kept clean, neat and tidy, and away from the face. Shoulder length hair must be tied back in a tidy manner by a hair tie or similar, including mullets. Hair accessories should be kept to the school colours. No sparkly or multi coloured hair accessories are to be worn.

# **Inappropriate Tik Tok Content**

Currently, several viral trends are circulating on TikTok. One is the "your dad went for milk" statement. This is about fathers leaving their families, and we have started hearing children directing this statement at others without possibly understanding its meaning. It is a painful statement to make to a child whose father may not be present in their lives. Please monitor your child's internet use and the content they are viewing. Remember that sites like TikTok and Youtube have an age restriction of 13 years. We have included in this newsletter a guide to what parents and caregivers need to know about Tik Tok.

### Pasifika Performance

Our Rāwhiti Pasifika performing group will be taking part in Sau Ia fest on Saturday 9 July. This event will be live streamed via Taute Mai Facebook page and Youtube channel.



### New Art Piece in Tawhirimatea

Towards the end of the last term and the beginning of this, the children worked on producing a square to communicate about themselves as part of our Social Studies. Each square was partitioned into four sections communicating the following: country/ countries they hail from, their whanau, a place they love and something they love to do. Their information was transferred onto a square of calico and they carefully painted their drawings.

Over the past two weeks, our amazing whānau (Helen, Kim, Jasmine, Abigail, Melissa, Michelle) have been sewing these together for us and Julie (Millie's mum) put it all together into the stunning wall hanging which is now displayed on the wall in Tāwhirimātea! *Te ataahua hoki!* (*That's beautiful*).

Make sure you pop in to look because it's more stunning in real life!



### Y7/8 Basketball

We played in the semi finals on Tuesday night against Te Waka thunder and went into extra time after a 9-9. Draw. We finally won on golden goal with Tyson scoring a free throw. The team were so proud of their impressive improvements as the last time they played this team they went down by a large margin. Looking forward to the finals and another term of games next term. Player of the day went to Taylor for her excellent defence and huge improvement in confidence.

Jen Evans, team manager.



## **Bread Tag Collection**



Have you noticed that cardboard bread tags are very quickly replacing plastic bread tags here in Aotearoa?

This is <u>great news</u> for the environment, but that does mean that soon

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs won't have any plastic bread tags coming in for us to recycle.

Therefore, from 1 September 2022 the bread tag collection point at Rawhiti School office will be removed.

Please ensure you drop your collection of bread tags in before this date.

Where possible please separate the bread tags by colour, remove any stickers, rubbish or dirty/rusty bread tags - you'll make the collection point volunteer's day!

Nga mihi nui kia koutou for all your support!

We are all volunteers, and together, we have all made such huge differences in the quality of many wheelchair recipients lives, as well as keeping bread tags out of landfill.

Reminder - at the Rawhiti School office collection point -

### We do not accept cardboard bread tags.

Cardboard bread tags can be recycled in your yellow kerbside bins. It is highly recommended that the cardboard bread tags be consolidated before being put into your yellow bin. There are many simple ways of doing this. The easiest is to put them in an envelope, which you then seal before it adding to your recycling, or you could wrap them up in newspaper. That way they will not fall out and get blown off the recycling processor belt.

From 1st September 2022 the Taupini Hangarua (recycling centre) in the Rawhiti School office will only be a collection area for:

# Taupuni Hangarua

(Recycling Centre)

Rawhiti School office collection area for : ALUMINIUM CAN TABS, <u>WINE</u> BOTTLE CAPS AND ALL #2 HDPE PLASTIC TOPS.





This is a collection point to support:





# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# TikTok is a video-sharing social media app which lets people create, view and download looping 15-second clips. Typically, these are videos of users lip-syncing and dancing to popular songs or soundbites (often for comic purposes), enhanced with filters, effects and text. Designed with young people in mind, TikTok skyrocketed in popularity in 2019 and has featured near the top of download charts ever since, It now has around a billion users worldwide.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most videos appearing on a child's feed are light-hearted and amusing. However, some clips have been reported for featuring drug and alcohol abuse, themes of suicide and self-harm, or young teens acting in a sexually suggestive way. The sheer volume of uploads is impossible to moderate entirely – and since TilkTok Jump's introduction in mid-2021, users can view third-party content outside the app. 77

### EXPLICIT SONGS

TikTok primarily revolves around videos of users lip-syncing and dencing to music. Inevitably, some featured songs will contain explicit or suggestive lyries. Given the appris young user-base, there is a risk that children may view older users' videos and then be inclined to imitate any explicit language or suggestive actions.

### TIKTOK FAME

6 The app has created its own celebrities: Charli D'Armello and Lil Nas X, for example, were catapulted to fame by exposure on TikTak — leading to many more teens attempting to go viral and become "TikTak famous". While most aspiring stars hoping to be 'the next big thing will find it difficult, setbacks may in turn prompt them to go to even more drastic lengths to get noticed.

### HAZARDOUS VISIBILITY

Connecting with others is simple on TikTak—including commenting on and reacting to users' videos, following their profile and downloading their content. The majority of these interactions are harmless, but—because of its abundance of teen users—TikTak has experienced problems with predators contacting young people.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like all social media, TikTok is designed to be addictive. It can be hugely entertaining — but that also makes it hard to put down. As well as the punchy nature of the short video format, the app's ability to keep users intrigued about what's coming next mean it's easy for a 5-minute visit to turn into a 45-minute stay.

### IN-APP SPENDING

There's an in-app option to purchase TikTok coins!, which are then converted into digital rewards for sending to content creators that a user likes. Prices range from 92p to an eye-matering £95 bundle. TikTok is also connected with Shopily, which allows users to buy products through the app.

# Advice for Parents & Carers

#### TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

ch. Assuming your child is above TikTok's age limit, talk to them about what they've viewed on the app. Ask their opinion on what's appropriate and what isn't. Explain why they shouldn't give out personal details or upload videos which reveal information like their school or home address. In the long run, teaching them to think critically about what they see on TikTok could help them to become social-media savvy.

## MAINTAIN PRIVACY SETTINGS

The default setting for all under 16s' accounts to 'private'. Keeping it that way is the safest solution: it means only users who your child approves can watch their videos. The 'Stitch' (which lets users spile clips from other people's videos into their own) and 'Due' (where you build on another user's content by recording your own video alongside their original) features are now only available to over 16s. This might clash with your child's ambitions of social media stardom, but it will fortily their occount against predators.

#### LEARN ABOUT REPORTING and blocking

With the correct privacy settings applied. TikTok is a relatively safe space. However, in case something does spip through, make sur-your child knows how to recognise and report inappropriate content and get them to come to you about anything upsetting that they've seen. TikTok allows users to report anyone breaching its guidelines, while you can also block individual users through their profile.

# 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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Term 3 is coming. Are you looking for a new activity that will build your child's FOCUS & CONFIDENCE? We are now taking enrollments in a Life skill focused Martial arts school for all ages. We Educate. Inspire. Empower youth with FOCUS, CONFIDENCE and other essential life skills while learning self-defence. Book a trial class with Shizoku Martial Arts.

www.smakarate.co.nz

