



Newsletter #15 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 9th September 2022

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi

Rising Above The Ordinary

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

**Kia ora koutou,** I know that many of our children (and some teachers) were hoping for a 'snow day' on Tuesday - sadly, it was not to be. While some were disappointed, many of us were relieved because there are only 3 weeks of school before we break for the October holidays and there's still a lot to pack in.

In the last fortnight we managed to get our Year 7 & 8 students off on their ski day at Mt Hutt, and the Year 4 students over to Rāpaki Marae for their overnight stay. I managed to spend a day at the marae with the tamariki from Tāne Mahuta and was very impressed with their knowledge and understanding of the marae protocols. It was certainly a beautiful place for their first marae experience.

Our highly popular winter sport season drew to a close last Friday with all of our teams doing us proud in the competitions. We are proud of our children's sportsmanship, bravery and passion as they represent our school. We are also very grateful to our teaching staff and parent helpers for their coaching, team management and running practices over a very wet winter season. A huge thank you to our amazing parent helpers - Andy Gray, Charlotte Buogos, Fiona Dempsey, Sara Anderson, Monica Thurlow, Martine Hall and Sophie Carlisle. We could not have done it without you. A particular shout out to Marcella Wood our sports coordinator who has done a fantastic job in her first season in this role. Thank you too to all of you who provided parent support on the sideline. Your children and your school appreciate your commitment to this passion.

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## **SEPTEMBER**

12th Ata Hapara Whanau Hui, 4.45pm

12th Te Ahi Ora—Fire Spinning Performance, 6pm

14th School Photos

16th Kapahaka Performing at The Palms, 1pm

21st BOT Elections Close, 4pm

22nd BOT Meeting

27/28 School Production, 6.30pm

30th Last Day of Term 3

#### **OCTOBER**

17th Term 4 Starts

24th SCHOOL CLOSED—Labour

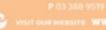
Day

310ct—2Nov Y5 Camp, Glentui

#### **NOVEMBER**

2-4NovY6 Camp, Glentui





## From The Principal continued ...

### Te Ahi Ora and Te wiki o te reo Maori

Next week the highlight of our te wiki o te reo Maori will be the exciting Te Ahi Ora 'Fire Spinning' demonstration here at school on Monday September 12th from 6-7pm, and our kapa haka performance at The Palms, Shirley, at 1pm on Friday, September 16th.

Next week I will be attending the New Zealand Principals Federation Conference which, for the first time since the 2010 earthquakes, is being held in Christchurch at Te Pae. This is a significant event for Christchurch principals as we welcome our colleagues back to our transformed city. Another small sign of forward momentum which has been a long time coming. Paul Wilkinson and Helen Parata will be your first contacts while I am away from the school.

#### Poutama Reo Trial

Over the last few months Rāwhiti School has been working with the Education Review Office to trial a tool called Poutama Reo. We are one of a small number of schools across the motu to be asked to do this work.

The Poutama Reo framework has been designed as a self review tool that schools can independently use to determine where they are at in relation to Māori language provision across the school, and explore their next steps for transforming their policies and practices. Rāwhiti was an obvious choice of school to help with the development of the tool as there is so much already happening here to support and promote te reo Māori, and we used the framework with team leaders, children and a group of whānau to get feedback that has helped ERO further develop this tool.

The Poutama Reo Framework is being launched nationally in Wellington on September 21st by Ministers Davis and Tinetti, and Helen Parata and I have been invited to attend this event.

## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

Our new focus is positive interactions between people - both in the classroom and in the playground. We will be using the phrase "Aroha atu, aroha mai' to positively encourage or redirect children to show respect to each other in their interactions, both verbal and physical. The English translation of 'Aroha atu, aroha mai' is 'love received, love returned'. This concept is expressed in the whakatauki *He aroha whakatō, he aroha puta mai - If kindness is sown, then kindness you shall receive.* 

### Board of Trustee elections - HAVE YOU CAST YOUR VOTE?

Please remember to vote for parent representatives for the Board. Voting closes at 4pm on Wednesday September 21st - so you still have time to complete the form and return it to school. Further on in this newsletter you can read the profiles of those standing for election.

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## From The Principal continued ...

Our current trustees have the final meeting for their elected term on Thursday, September 22nd. I would like to acknowledge the governance that our current trustees have provided over the past few extraordinary years. Ably led by Cheryl Lineham (our Presiding Member), our elected trustees Thomas Parata, Jess Poff, Tim Scott and Jen Evans, our staff trustee Helen Hogarth, and our co-opted trustees Briar Thompson and Jess Riddell have given countless hours of service to the school. Under their governance we have navigated the complexities of schooling in a Covid environment, completed significant landscaping projects, and have two new teaching spaces/one studio almost completed.

Thank you to our board members for their commitment to this school, to the teaching staff and to me as principal. We are fortunate to have this level of support, and to have a Board of Trustees who can see the big picture about the future of teaching and learning.

#### **New Entrant Enrolments for 2023**

It may only be September but we are already planning for the 2023 school year. If you live in the Rāwhiti School zone and have a child who will be starting school in 2023 then now is the time to enrol. You will find all of the enrolment details on our website, or you can contact Kim in the school office for more information or for assistance with the enrolment process.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Liz Weir, Principal

# Principals Awards Ngā tāonga a te Tumuaki



## Rongo-ma-tane

Amelia, Asha x5, Ava M, Avalon x2, Ayla, Caitlyn x2, Cherish x2, Dillon, Eli x2, Ernie, Flynn, Frank x2, Georgia G x3, Haille, Isla P x3, Isla-Jade, Jayden x2, Leilani x2, Manaia, Marama x2, Mason x4, Mateo, Micah x2, Nevaeh x3, Ollie, Oliver x4, Parker x4, Rosalie x3, Shayla x3, Tara x2, Tilly T x5, Travis x2, Vicky x2, Violet, Zane

## Papatūānuku:

Charlie M, Charlie W x2, Emilie-Vida x2, Geordie x2, Jack, Jacqueline, Lakey, Layla, Luca x4, Mia H x2, Nate, Noah W, Opal, River x4, Vinnie x2

### **Tāwhirimātea**

Aaliyah C, Everley, Isla C, Lexie S

## **Kiwi Competition Results**

The University of Canterbury administers the English, Maths and Science competitions for students in Years 5-8 every year. The skills-based online exams closely align with the NZ Curriculum. Congratulations to the following students for their awards.

**Excellence:** Heath (Science), Leon (Maths & Science), Travis (English, Maths & Science)

**Merit:** Eliza (English), Heath (English), James (Maths), Leon (English), Oskar, (English), Zara (Maths)

**Achieved:** Heath (Maths), Jasper (Maths & Science), Lexie (Maths), Oskar (Maths), Zara (English)

## Wig Wednesday Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Wig Wednesday and made donations. We received \$576.20 in total.

If parents or caregivers would like to make a separate donation, you can click the link below, this will take you to Rāwhiti Schools donation page.

https://wigwednesday.org.nz/rawhitischool





#### Kia Manawaroa

Kia Manawaroa is the Ministry of Education's pānui for whānau Māori. It is written by Māori for Māori, with information about opportunities and milestones in education, Māori success as Māori, Te Reo Māori, and COVID-19 updates relevant to whānau as and when appropriate.

The latest issue is out now with updates about:

- Te Wiki o te Reo Māori dates
- New resource to support tamariki transition into kura
- Whānau wellbeing and support
- And so much more!

Read the latest issue of Kia Manawaroa:
<u>Kia Manawaroa August 2022 – Education for parents'</u>
and whānau

You can <u>subscribe to Kia Manawaroa</u> to get the latest copy straight to your inbox.

#### **ICAS Results**

Some students competed in ICAS exams earlier this term. The competition questions are set in real-world scenarios where students are assessed on their ability to apply classroom learning to new contexts, using higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills. Congratulations to the following students for their awards (Maths still to come):

**High Distinction:** Travis (DigiTech & English)

**Distinction:** George W (Science & English), Jeremiah (English & Science), Leon (Science, English & DigiTech).

**Credit:** Amrin (DigiTech), Everley (English), Freya (Science), Heath (Science & English), Jazmin (English), Oskar (English), Riley B (DigiTech), Teri (Science), Zara (English).

**Merit:** Moses (Science), Willow (English), Zita (English).

## Rāpaki Marae Reflections

### By Kaden Hack

When we arrived at the marae we put our bags in the van and walked down a steep hill to the building. They welcomed us with a pōwhiri then we shared kai with each other. We did some weaving and there

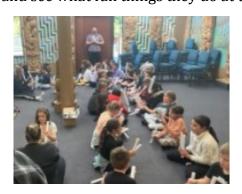


was weaving on the wall inside the wharenui. We made rakau and then we played a game. The whole class went to the beach and found some crabs. We also found some nice paua shell that was rainbow in colour. This was my favourite part of the trip. We washed our hands after going to the beach and we ate more kai At night time we all helped each other get the mattresses out and ready for bed. When we were all in bed Maui told us a story about the Waka and all the Atua on the walls and the birds. There were green, red, yellow and blue lights in the marae. It was good staying at the marae for 1 day but the beach was my favourite time at the marae. I really enjoyed my time at the marae.

## By Jeremiah Lee

We arrived at the Marae just after ten thirty in the morning. We had to walk down a steep hill to get to Rāpaki marae. We were formally greeted and welcomed with a pōwhiri. Then we ate some kai (food). After we ate our kai, we went down to the beach. It was just about a one-minute walk to the beach. At the beach that day it was low tide so we looked under some rocks for crabs. We also found some small caves on the cliffs and one cave full of amazing, colourful shells. The most amazing shell that I found was a sharp, cone-shaped green bluish-coloured shell. We also found a dead crab arm and dead fish. We were there for fifty minutes which was a long time being at a beach for me. When we got back from the beach we did some weaving with strips of coloured paper and a large page of black paper. I did three sheets of weaving. Then we ate our lunch. I was very hungry before lunch. Then we made our own rakau sticks out of magazines and a white sheet of paper. Next, we played rakau games. Then we had dinner which was lasagne. After dinner, we did our beds. Then Maui told us the stories about the carving and paintings. The next day we woke up, ate breakfast and went to the beach again. Before we left we greeted Ata Hapara and Tāwhirimātea. Finally, we left.

The day I arrived at school I was very excited. When we arrived at the marae I felt even more excited. The next day I felt very, very tired since I didn't have enough sleep that night. The most challenging thing that I had to face while at the marae was going to sleep. It was hard because my mind was full of things that I would do the next day but eventually I went to sleep. I hope one day to go to another marae and see what fun things they do at their marae.







### School Board Elections—Parent Election Notice

The following pages are the candidate statements from the 9 parents that you can vote for as a parent representative on our Board of Trustees. **You are allowed to vote for a maximum of 5.** Voting closes at 4pm on Wednesday 21st September 2022.



### **GARETH FREW**



Kia ora, my name is Gareth Frew. My wife, Brooke, and I have four children, and our oldest child Kaia is currently a year one student in Ata Hāpara. I have been living in the Brighton area for the last ten years.

I wish to be elected to the Rāwhiti School Board of Trustees to build on the great work of previous board members and to see Rāwhiti School develop and reach its full potential.

I am an innovative and independent thinker passionate about seeing our local area thrive. I have a degree in pharmacy and have worked in a range of pharmacy roles and managerial roles in the health system over the last 15 years. I love learning and have recently completed a postgraduate diploma in health management. Throughout my career, I have enjoyed building relationships and understanding other people's perspectives to develop and implement innovative strategies for shared challenges. I have reported to and sat on several health governance boards and expert advisory groups. In addition to my own experiences, my wife, Brooke, is a qualified high school teacher and worked in various education settings before having children.

I really enjoy living in the area and have been involved with the North Beach Residents Association since moving to North Beach. I love spending time with my wonderful family. I also enjoy surfing, riding bikes and skateboarding. I enjoy brewing coffee and I can often be found at the North Beach Coffee Shed.

With four kids, I expect to be involved with Rāwhiti School for many years, and as such, I want to contribute to seeing it thrive.

## THOMAS PARATA



I am Thomas Parata and I am looking to be re - elected to the Rāwhiti School Board of Trustees. I have one child in Year 5 at Rāwhiti School and have been on the BOT since 2019.

The BOT of Rāwhiti is an exciting place to see the development of policies and procedures, what is happening in the school and seeing a big picture of where the school is heading.

I want to be able to provide Rāwhiti School with what it needs to ensure quality education for its students. I think the Rāwhiti Board of Trustees has a part to play in this.

Kia ora koutou katoa.

# **JODY HOHAIA O'SULLIVAN**

Nāia te reo whakamihi e rere nei ki a koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

Ko Jody tōku ingoa. My husband Joseph and I have three boys, Irāia, Koiata and Ahumai. Our whānau enjoy living close to Rāwhiti School and being part of our wonderful beach community. Our eldest Irāia has recently started at Rāwhiti and will be closely followed by his two eager younger brothers. As parents, we are committed to the Rāwhiti

School community for the next 10 years.

The other hat that I wear is as a Lecturer at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha University of Canterbury, in the Te Kaupeka Ako Faculty of Education. This role combines my passion for education, my motivation for nurturing quality teachers, and my focus on empowering, enriching and engaging student learning experiences.

I have more than 20 years of experience in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary education. My Board experience includes Home and Family (Child Therapy, Parental Services and Whānau Safety), Te Ora Hou Ōtautahi (Youth and Community Development) and Kimihia Adventure Programme (Alternative Education Provision).

It would be a privilege to serve on the Board of Trustees on behalf of our school community, to ensure the provision of a high quality learning environment for all. A school where all children reach their potential through best practice and collective wisdom.

Poipoia te kākano kia puawai - Nurture the seed and it will blossom.

### TIM SCOTT

Hi, my name is Tim Scott. I'm Dad to Noah and Carys who attend Rāwhiti in years 6 and 4. I originally became involved with the school through working on the landscape design of the school grounds. I've been a member on the board of trustees over the last three years and have learnt a lot about how the school board operates and in the process gained an appreciation of the huge amount of the time and energy put in by all the staff.

I'm keen to see that the kids enjoy their time at Rāwhiti and that they have plenty of opportunities to learn and grow. I'd like to see students come away from the school with a strong sense of community and a sense of pride in their unique place in the world.

I've enjoyed my time on the board and would feel privileged to be able to continue to give back to the team at Rāwhiti after almost 6 years of the school supporting and developing our children.

## **CHERYL LINEHAM**

My daughter Emma started at Rāwhiti in late 2016 and I accepted a position as a co-opted parent representative to the Board of Trustees in July 2018. In the May 2019 tri-annual elections I was voted in as a parent representative. It was a privilege when the Board of Trustees elected me as Chairperson in 2021, a role which I continue to hold until the new Board of Trustees is elected.

My time on the Board of Trustees and the position of Chairperson has given me an incredible insight into how schools function and the daily pressures that teaching staff and the principal face in a school of our size. I am incredibly proud of how we have faced the Covid pandemic head on, and despite all the challenges that have been thrown at us we have still managed to deliver quality learning with as few disruptions as possible, which I believe, reflects on our incredible staff and their commitment to Rāwhiti School.

I am a New Brighton girl born and bred and my husband Chris and I have always lived in the area. I attended Central New Brighton Primary School and Aranui High. We have two girls; Bella-Raine who attends Avonside Girls High and Emma who is here at Rāwhiti. With active girls it became important to me to become involved our community. We all bring a different set of skills and experiences to the table and mine, as an older parent, have been molded by my life experiences, family and friends and 30 years of employment. My vocation has seen me in a varied range of administration roles from small family run businesses through to large corporate organisations. Each has given me tools to bring a different range of qualities to the organisations I have been involved with. I have previously served on the Parklands Toy Library Committee as both Secretary and Treasurer, been part of the organizing committee for the council run Parklands @ Play community event for 3 years and assisted with fundraising and obtaining funding grants for new resources at North New Brighton Kindergarten.

We have achieved so much for such a relatively new and progressive school, but we still have more work to do. I believe that every child is entitled to an education that values their strengths and uniqueness whilst giving them the tools to achieve their goals in this ever-changing world we live in. It would be a privilege to continue being part of the governing body of Rāwhiti School.

## **IESS POFF**



Kia ora, Jess Poff here, currently I am a parent representative and vice chair to the ever important, always evolving, Rāwhiti school Board of Trustees.

Over the last 3 years I've been an integral part of supporting our school community to help take on the challenges and celebrate the accomplishments we manage, on a regular basis.

Currently I assist with overseeing and reviewing the updates of the Ministry's policies and procedures, ensuring our school is constantly meeting the standards required.

I offer a strong voice when it comes to pressing issues and support when making financial calls.

I'm an enthusiastic and encouraging member of the board and community. I live to make connections and feel extremely fortunate to be a part of the hidden gem that is, NEW BRIGHTON!

I have 3 children within the school, 2 which are thriving and 1 who is finding his feet as a new entrant.

I work part time at the neighbouring preschool where I also take a role within the governance board.

I'm a friendly, approachable face in the community having gone through the local playcentre and preschool for several years and more recently, involved in the netball and rugby clubs.

Prior to my mum life I held a position as a retail buyer, albeit a different career, I feel I carry a desirable and personable skillset that has served me well in all facets of life.

The board requires balance when it comes to outlook and making tough decisions, I absolutely believe I have the ability to continue to step up to the role I currently hold.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve on your board and I appreciate you taking the time to read and vote, me.

## GEOFF WALKER

Kia ora, I'm Geoff Walker, I'm a parent of Mayan (Year 4) and Jamie (starting in 2023).

My wife and I have lived in North New Brighton for about 11 years. My day job is as Head of Finance and Sustainability for Jade Software. My last Board role was as Treasurer for Amnesty International Aotearoa New Zealand where I was on the Board for 6 years.

I was involved in the Playcentre attached to Rāwhiti while our kids attended it. I am keen to get more involved with the school especially as we will shortly have two children there. I have experience in governance, finances, sustainability and being a big kid.

## BRIAR THOMPSON



I am currently a co-opted member on the Rāwhiti School Board, and would like to continue as an elected parent representative.

I have lived in North Beach my whole life and attended North New Brighton School, the previous school on the Rāwhiti grounds. My husband and I have three children. Moses is in Papatūānuku, Leilani is in Rongo-mā-tāne and our youngest Mahalia attends North New Brighton Kindergarten. As a family, a value that is of high importance to us, is that of being actively involved in the local community. This includes getting to know our neigh-

bours and attending and being involved in our local schools.

Pre-children, I trained as an Early Childhood Teacher and then worked locally in this role for eight vears. Following this. worked part time as PA. whilst also running programs for children under five years of age. I was involved in facilitating multiple playgroups. These groups continues to run, still supporting families and their young children as it did in the early days. Whilst facilitating one particular playgroup, I formed connections with Plunket and, recognising another need in our community, started a new playgroup specifically for new parents with newborns. I loved the role of meeting new families and making them feel a sense of belonging in their new role as parents and as a part of the local community.

I have always been active in our community, and have been part of the North Beach Residents Association for nine years. For the last six years, I have held the role of Secretary. As part of this role, I have helped organise and host community events; assisted in leading meetings; met many other community-minded people in the wider New Brighton area, and sent a lot of emails! I'd love the opportunity to continue being part of the Rāwhiti School Board as I'm passionate about seeing teachers, children, their whānau and the community thrive. I'd love to keep contributing to the school that my children are a part of and serve this school community.

I'm a positive person and have strong communication skills. I am community focussed, reliable, responsible, and like to get things done! I have read and understood the Rāwhiti Boards strategic goals and I believe that my skills and experience align well with many of the desired outcomes. It would be an honour to serve you.

## **IESS RIDDELL**

Kia ora, ko Jess Riddell tōku ingoa.

I have two boys (Oliver, year 2 and Austin, year 0) in Ata Hāpara (the bilingual studio) and a younger daughter, Rosa. My whānau and I are passionate about contributing to the New Brighton community and seeing our local kura/school thrive.

I am a lawyer and environmental advisor at Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and a co-owner of Offcut (a small business turning fabric scraps into caps). I have been a co-opted parent representative on the Rāwhiti School board for the last 9 months, and also been on a preschool board, the local residents' association, and currently sit on a number of other boards that a have a community focus. I am a strategic thinker, good listener and communicator, and unafraid to ask questions. I always act with integrity.

As a board member, I'd like to contribute to the governance of a school that encourages our children to be curious, life-long learners. It is important that our teachers, support staff, and senior leadership team are well-support so they can do their very best for our children. I want children to feel safe, happy and have a great sense of belonging. I am keen to see our school connected and contributing the wider community and the beautiful environment we live in. Rāwhiti is a wonderful school that I want to see go from strength to strength.

## School Board Elections—Parent Elections

There is still time to vote. By now you should have received your voting papers and nine candidate statements in the post. **You are allowed to vote for a maximum of 5 candidates.** 

Voting closes at 4pm on Wednesday 21st September 2022. There is a ballot box at the office reception.



## 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.)





