



Newsletter #2 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 17th February 2023

*E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary*

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou, Thank you very much for your generous support of our non-uniform day fundraiser last Friday. I am delighted to let you all know that we collected over \$800 to support Kora (and her whānau) in her fight back to full health. Kora's mum was overwhelmed by the support from our Rāwhiti community and the money raised will go towards allowing Kora's siblings to visit her in Auckland and have some fun experiences while they are there. Kora has just had her 8th brain surgery and is now on to the next stage of her recovery in a specialist long-term rehabilitation facility in Auckland.

Like many of you I have watched with horror this past week as Cyclone Gabrielle has battered the northern parts of our country and caused havoc across so many communities. I understand that it has been a nerve wracking time for those of you waiting to hear from family members directly impacted by the storm.

As a principal who has lead through earthquakes, the mosque shooting, fires and a pandemic I can empathise with what my North Island colleagues are going through now. With so many communities experiencing the loss of homes, livelihoods, lives in some cases, and loss of crops and stock, I'd like to say how grateful I am for our emergency services—the firefighters, paramedics, helicopter pilots, and members of the armed forces currently involved with the many rescues; for the lines people getting the power and communication connectivity re-established, and to the crews of Waka Kōtahi mending roads and bridges; for those who are manning the evacuation centres

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Mark Your Calendar

FEBRUARY 2023

- 20th Tāwhirimātea Y6 Cycle Safety
- 20th Board of Trustees Meeting
- 23rd Tāne Mahuta Y6 Cycle Safety
- 24th Whole School Assembly
- 24th Scholastic Book Club Closes

MARCH 2023

- 2nd Early closing—12.15pm
- 6-10 Wheel or Walk to School
- 8th Senior Swimming Sports
- 9th Junior Triathlon, 1-3pm
- 15th Zones Swimming
- 20-22 Y5 Camp, Waipara
- 22-24 Y6 Camp, Waipara
- 27,28 Tāne Mahuta & Ata Hapara Y6 Cycle Safety
- 27th Board of Trustees Meeting
- 31st Whole School Assembly

APRIL 2023

- 6th Canterbury Swimming
- 6th Last Day of Term



From The Principal continued ...

and providing comfort to so many scared and shocked people; and to those keeping the supply chains open to ensure communities get food and water. I would also like to acknowledge the principals and staff who have been able to open their schools and get tamariki back to some sense of normality, which we here in Canterbury know is essential to wellbeing.

It's times like these that we are reminded that community is essential, a lesson we learned in 2011 and 2012.

Manaiakalani Class OnAir

Congratulations to one of our teachers, Racheal Cooper, who has been successful in gaining a place on the Manaiakalani Class on Air programme for 2023. This is an opportunity for teachers who are inquiring into practice, achieving accelerated shifts in their classes, and who are interested in sharing their practice online as well as face to face. Participation in the Class OnAir programme is available to up to 10 Manaiakalani classroom teachers across New Zealand who will share the practice of those teachers and classes within their own school, across schools, with the Faculty of Education, UoA, nationally and internationally.

Early Closing Thursday 2nd March—12.15pm

We all want the best for our children. Our teachers love what they do, but not enough funding for schools means that they don't have the time they would like to support all children to thrive. We can fix this though. NZEI Te Riu Roa primary teacher and principal members are making the case to Government for the best investment in tamariki. Smaller class sizes, more time for individual students and more specialist learning support staffing would make a huge difference.

Keeping and retaining teachers is top of mind right now, and this term, our teachers will also be meeting to consider a pay offer – and assessing if it's enough to make sure that teaching is valued and is an attractive profession.

That is why teachers at our school will be attending paid union meetings on the afternoon of Thursday, March 2nd. We are asking that children are collected from school at lunch time (12.15pm) to allow teachers to travel to this meeting. If you are not able to make an alternative arrangement for your child on that day, please notify the school office as soon as possible so that we can arrange supervision on site for the afternoon. There will be no teaching programmes taking place that afternoon. ***Please note that Year 7 & 8 students will be going to tech as usual and will be released when the bus returns to school at approx 12.50pm. Younger siblings can wait and go home with their Year 7&8 sibling if that is most convenient for you.***

When we support our children to learn and succeed, we are supporting whānau and communities to thrive. We look forward to another great year in 2023 – and together with your support building the case for better investment in our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Liz Weir
Principal

Keeping Everyone Safe While on School Grounds

- Please remember to shut gates behind you especially if you are coming after the bell has rung and/or anytime during school hours.
- The speed hump out the front **IS NOT A CROSSING**. Cars have the right of way—pedestrians must wait until the road is clear to cross.
- There is always a duty teacher out the front in the morning and our road patrollers in the afternoon.
- There are 4 pathways on school grounds that are shared, as follows:



Scooters and Skateboards

Children are encouraged to bring their wheels to school – bikes, scooters, skateboards or ripsticks and ride them in a safe manner. If a child is found to be riding their wheels unsafely their wheels will be taken to the office for the day and they can collect them after school. Having wheels at school is a privilege not a right. **Please ensure that all items are named and understand that they come to school at the owners risk. It is advisable to lock scooters and bikes.**

Year 3/4 Self Defence Project

Over 2 weeks in March our Year 3 & 4 girls will take part in the Self Defence Project. This course is run by Kia Haumarū – Personal Safety Education, by a qualified and experienced Personal Safety Educator. This course offers each student the opportunity to take a positive step to reinforce their ability to think confidently, speak strongly, and use their physical skills when necessary. The course will emphasise how students can 'think' their way out of a threatening situation, and how important it is to tell a safe adult if something happens.

- Rongomātāne Y3 & Ata Hapara Y3/4 - 13, 16 & 21 March
- Papatūānuku Y3 - 13, 14, 20 & 21 March
- Tāne Mahuta Y4 & Tāwhirimātea Y4 - 14, 16 & 20 March

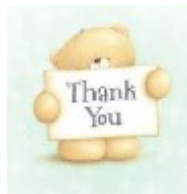
Thank You!

From Kora's whānau

On behalf of Kora and our whānau we would like to express our gratitude to the entire Rāwhiti school community for supporting the non-uniform day. The support we have felt despite only having joined this community recently has been greatly appreciated. Kora is now on the road to recovery and is very excited to get back to school and her peers.

Ngā mihi, Kora and the Tuliau-Hilton whānau.

Again I don't have enough words to express how thankful we are.



COVID

Covid is still active in the community. Please inform us if your child has COVID. **If your child has COVID they must stay home from school for 7 days.** If a member of the family has COVID the household contacts do not need to isolate but should test daily for 5 days.



We will continue to encourage good hygiene routines, and use ventilation as a tool here at school. If you wish your child to wear a mask then send them along with one, and we do still have some available at school.. A reminder that if your child is unwell for any reason please do not send them to school.



Dads Tuning in to Kids™

DATE, TIME & LOCATION*

23 March 2023 - 7 week course
9.30am-11.30am

Presbyterian Support
Te Korowai, 44 Bealey Ave,
Christchurch

REGISTRATION

For any questions or referrals, please contact Julie Forman on 03 261 2884 or julief@psusi.org.nz

COURSE DETAILS

Dads Tuning in to Kids™ teaches fathers of preschool and school-aged children how to help their children manage feelings, such as frustration, anger and worry.

In teaching emotional intelligence, children are better able to:

- » Concentrate at school
- » Make and keep friends
- » Manage conflict with peers
- » Calm down when upset or angry

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Pōari Hauora o Waitaha

COMMUNITY 
dental service

Free Dental Care for Children - including special information regarding Year 8 students

One of our Community Dental Service preventive mobiles will be making a short visit to your school soon.

- **Only the children who currently require a check-up will be seen at this visit.**
Please do not be concerned if your child is not called for a check-up this time.
- **Year 8 students:** all year 8 students enrolled with the Community Dental Service are transferred from the Community Dental Service to a FREE private dentist from year 9 until their 18th birthday. To help with this transition please ensure you have informed your child of their family dentist (not orthodontist). This will enable us to transfer your child onto the correct dentist for year 9 onwards. More information will be sent home after their year 8 check-up.
- The dental therapist will not only be checking the children's teeth but will also X-ray, clean, and apply protective treatments fluoride and or Fissure sealants (coating put on teeth to prevent decay) if required
- If your child requires further dental care such as fillings they will bring home a 'Care Plan' which will explain what dental care and appointment times are required.
- When you receive the 'Care Plan' please contact our **Call Centre as soon as possible** as you will need to arrange a time to bring your child to one of our Community Clinics for this dental care.
- Please contact our Call Centre if you want further information on the Community Dental Service, to enrol your child or if you have any specific questions about your child's dental care (a dental therapist will call you back)

To contact our Call Centre: phone 0800 846 983 / email commdental@cdhb.health.nz