



Newsletter #8 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 26th May 2023

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou,

There have been plenty of learning in action visits over these past two weeks with several studios taking part in the Save the Sand Dunes programme. Thanks to all parents and whanau who have braved the cold to support these learning experiences.

Best wishes to all of our students competing in the Zones Cross Country on Tuesday of next week. Fingers crossed for a sunny winters day.

Our Friday Winter Sports tournament kicks off on June 9th and there is still opportunity for you to get involved if you can donate some of your time to support one of our teams.

Possible Teacher Industrial Action

You may have seen reported in the media that primary teachers have voted to strike again on Wednesday, May 31st.

However, the teachers union has called a halt to industrial action as they have engaged in urgent negotiations with the Ministry of Education this week. We are all hopeful that further strike action can be avoided. I will be informed of the outcome of the negotiations on Sunday and will notify the community immediately if strike action is to go ahead.

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Mark Your Calendar

MAY 2023

30th Zones Cross Country

JUNE 2023

5th SCHOOL CLOSED—King's Birthday

9th Winter Sports Starts

14th Y6 Open Evening, 6-7pm

19th Board of Trustees Meeting

21st Canterbury Cross Country

22nd Dancing Like The Stars,
6pm, Isaac Theatre

28th Children's University
Students Campus Visit

29th Y7/8 Zones Basketball

30th Whole School Assembly

30th Last Day of Term 2

JULY 2023

1-16 School Holidays

17th First Day of Term 3

(There are many studio/kaiawhina trips coming up—please check your weekly Hero newsletter for details)



From The Principal continued ...

Positive Behaviour Acknowledgment

As part of our Positive Behaviour for Learning focus, teachers interact with children in the playground at break times looking for how they are demonstrating our school values (Resilience, Integrity, Success, Empathy). When a child is observed showing one or more of these values the teacher will give them a token and acknowledge how they have helped make Rāwhiti a great place by demonstrating that value. Our purpose is that these positive interactions promote the sorts of behaviours that help make our playground a happy place. The children can then take the token and vote for a reward by placing their token in one of three boxes in the library. Once a box is full the whole school has that acknowledgment as a celebration of all the positive interactions. This term so far there have been over 900 positive conversations with children in the playground.



If your child has tokens at home, encourage them to bring them back to school and vote for their favourite reward.

Missing Scooters

It is great to have so many tamariki skateboarding and scootering to school, and we know that they enjoy using their wheels at break times too. Unfortunately, we regularly have incidents where the wrong scooter is taken home, as many of them look exactly the same. It always helps if scooters are permanently named - and this is something that we can assist with at school by engraving your child's name onto their scooter. Please talk to Kim in the office if you would like to take up this offer.

We do our best to keep scooters and skateboards safe, but these items come to school at the owners risk - so if something is very precious, then it is best not to bring it to school. The racks we have installed all have the option for locking - so providing your child with a lock ensures that they are the only person who can access their wheels.

Unwell Children

We are seeing a significant increase in the number of Covid cases at school, and there is also a rather nasty gastro bug doing the rounds, particularly in the junior learning studios.



Please inform us if your child has COVID. If your child has COVID they **must isolate** at home for 7 days even if they start testing negative. If your child tests positive their siblings can continue to attend school, however they need to test daily for 5 days, and if they test positive then they must also begin 7 days of isolation. We have boxes of RATs here at school if you do not have any at home - please see Kim in the office.

If your child has a vomiting or diarrhoea bug then they must stay away from school for 48 hours from the time of their last symptom.

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From The Principal continued ...**Year 6 Parents Evening**

We are very aware that this is the time of year parents of our Year 6 children make decisions about where to send their child for Year 7 and 8. We believe that being a Full Primary School (Year 0-8) makes Rāwhiti School the ideal option because we offer a complete package for children between preschool and high school.

Being a Full Primary School means that we offer:

- A caring family environment that enhances personal development.
- Supportive staff who know your children well and care about their progress.
- Quality teaching and learning across the curriculum to prepare your children for the future.
- Leadership opportunities for all children, particularly Year 7 and 8.
- A Year 7 and 8 programme designed to meet the academic and social needs of the emerging adolescent.

The fact that we operate in purpose built facilities, designed to support current teaching and learning, is the icing on the cake!

However, don't take our word for it - come and meet with our Year 7 & 8 teaching team staff and students and hear them outline the options and programmes available at Rāwhiti School for Year 7 and 8 students. They will be hosting an information session for parents on **Wednesday, June 14th at 6pm**, in the Tangaroa learning studio.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Liz Weir

Principal

Rāwhiti is joining the herd!

We are lucky to be one of 30 Christchurch schools that will be designing and painting our very own Elmer the Elephant sculpture over Terms 2&3. The school sculptures along with over 30 large elephants, individually designed by professional and emerging artists, will be displayed through the streets, parks and public spaces of Christchurch and the surrounding towns from November 2023 to March 2024. The trail is part of a Wild in Art event supporting the Laura Fergusson Brain Injury Trust.

**Warm Hats To Give Away**

The lovely ladies at St Faith's Craft Group have kindly knitted a number of hats for our children. There are a variety of sizes.

If your child needs a warm hat, please come in and see Kim or Jude at the front desk.

Tangaroa Chess Club - Being Engaged

One of the things I like most about working here at Rāwhiti is being able to make the most of student's interests and passions. At the beginning of the year two students asked if we had a chess set. From that, an interest was sparked and now we have 20 students competing in our weekly chess tournament. So many, in fact, I will have to redo our chess ladder!

Competition is fierce, and students practice anytime they can get, even before school and during break-times. Our goals have been to learn the basics of the games, establish our chess ladder and play regularly against a variety of others. Now that is up and running we are hoping to challenge students from another school to some 'friendly' games. *(Sharon Thompson, Acting Team Leader, Tangaroa)*



Brainbusters

Well done Charli, Heath and Pippin Y8 students who competed on TV2's Brainbusters programme over the last couple of weeks. Catch episodes on TVNZ On Demand.



Calling All Artists!

Calling all local school kids! The Palms Shopping Centre is running a Matariki Artwork competition, for your chance to have your artwork blown up and featured in the centre over the July School Holidays.



Simply paint, draw, and create the Matariki stars associated with your school year group (listed on website) and go in the draw to have your artwork on display. Also, each chosen star will WIN a \$50 Palms Shopping Voucher.

See [thepalms.co.nz](https://www.thepalms.co.nz) or Facebook page for more details.

- You can enter singularly, with a partner, or as a school group.
- Artwork must be submitted as a full page A3 (no writing or wording).
- Each artwork requires a small blurb/couple of sentences describing the Matariki stars. To be written on the entry form.
- Entry forms can be collected and filled out at Customer Service Desk. Or see the download link on the website.
- Entries close at 6 pm, Wednesday 7 June 2023, please deliver to the Customer Service Desk.
- Judging criteria: bright, fun, creative, and bold.

Website: <https://www.thepalms.co.nz/what-s-on/events/matariki-kids-artwork-competition>



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.)



Floodwaters can destroy the land. They can wash away roads, bridges, railway tracks and buildings. They can ruin crops and drown livestock. Lives are also at risk, particularly in flash floods.

Floods are common in New Zealand but there are things we can do to be prepared. Get ready for flooding with this challenge and you can go in the draw to win an Apple iPad!

HOW TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:

There are five challenges for you to complete. When you've completed them, fill in the entry form at www.getready.govt.nz/challenge

Entries close midday 16 June.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday 27th May 2023

**Bring your own dinner from 5.45pm,
Movie starts at 6.30pm**

**Snacks and drinks available for
purchase.**

180 Queenspark Drive

**Avonside Girls High School
Open Afternoon**

Thursday 1st June 2023 from
3.30pm—5.30pm