



Newsletter #19 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 24th November 2023

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

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

**Kia ora koutou,** Heading in to the last three weeks of school it is hard to tell if we are 'winding down' or 'winding up'!

Our Year 7s and 8s have just finished their three day camps down at Staveley. I had a fantastic day down there last week taking part in the 'legacy project' work in the beech forest, where our Year 7s were learning to identify native species and also helping remove exotic plants. I loved seeing how hard our students worked and hearing how well they understood the need for this important work. It was delightful to receive the following message from the camp staff today:



*"Kia ora wonderful teachers. Thank you so much for bringing your students to Kakariki Camps. As a school you bring passion, manners, curiosity and wonder. As teachers, wow, you're all off the scale and, along with the parents, we enjoyed you so much. Arohanui."*

I am very much looking forward to next Friday, December 1st, when we celebrate our Rāwhiti Day of Action. This is the culmination of our years focus on understanding the concept of Kaitiakitanga. Parents and whānau are invited to join us and be a part of this day. There will be various activities celebrating our learning and different events are taking place across the day. If you have not seen the Hero post from earlier in the week, you will find all of the information further on in this newsletter.

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## **Mark Your Calendar**

### **NOVEMBER**

29th Canterbury Athletics  
30th Kapa Haka Festival 5pm

### **DECEMBER**

1st Kaitiakitanga Day of Action  
1st Whole School Assembly  
4th Board of Trustees, 5pm  
6-8 Library Closed For Stock-Take  
7th Parent Helper/Supporters Function 5pm  
11th Showcase Assembly, 1pm  
11th Year 8 Formal Dinner, 6pm  
12th Rumbustification Day  
13th Leavers Assembly, 6pm  
14th School Finishes—12pm

### **JANUARY 2024**

31st Goal Setting Day— more details coming out soon

### **FEBRUARY 2024**

1st First Day of Instruction  
1st Mihi Whakatau, 9.15am  
5th SCHOOL CLOSED  
6th SCHOOL CLOSED—  
Waitangi Day



### *From The Principal continued ...*

On Tuesday evening I joined dozens of proud Rāwhiti parents and whanau at the Town Hall for this years Children's University graduation. Of all the schools represented on the night, Rāwhiti had by far the largest number of graduates, who had amassed a staggering number of learning hours outside of school across the year. Of particular significance, this year Heath (from Ata Hapara) received our first ever **Gold Fellowship Award** for completing 1000 hours of extra learning. I need to extend special thanks to Helen Parata, our in-school coordinator, who goes above and beyond to ensure that everyone meets their targets.



I look forward to seeing many of you at our cluster Kapa Haka festival next Thursday night (see flyer later in the newsletter).

### **Staffing Changes**

The Board of Trustees has regretfully accepted resignations from three of our staff members.

Nicole Cunningham has been on leave in 2023 and has now accepted a leadership role at Ao Tawhiti. Nicole is one of our Rāwhiti School foundation staff members. We will miss Nicole's passion for working with early learners, her enthusiasm, her energy, and her sense of fun.

Nogo Sipeli is retiring from teaching at the end of this year. Nogo joined the Rāwhiti teaching team in 2017 as the Team Leader in the Year 7-8 area of the school. He stepped down from this role earlier this year in preparation for his upcoming retirement. Nogo has been a calming presence in the senior school and has made significant contributions at a number of schools during his teaching career.

Maggie Nicholson is completing her first year as a teacher in Rongo-mā-tāne and has won a position at West Melton School for 2024.

Sophie Bruinsma and Stacey Hewson are also coming to the end of their fixed term contacts with us. Sophie will be returning home to Perth after a year teaching in Rongo-mā-tāne and we know that Sophie will not miss the winter temperatures of Christchurch (and some of the summer ones either!). Stacey started with us as the third teacher in our New Entrant studio, Aotahi, at the beginning of term 2 and successfully transitioned a cohort of Year 1 children through to Rongo-mā-tāne at the beginning of Term 3. We are very grateful to both of these talented teachers for all they have done for our learners across the year, and we wish them all the very best as they move on to the next stage of their careers.

We will acknowledge all of these teachers, and their service to the school, at our Leavers Assembly on Wednesday, December 13th at 6pm.

In the next newsletter we will share with you all the 2024 teaching teams and Learning Studio composition.

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***From The Principal continued ...*****Hero Posts**

On Tuesday of next week we will be posting a separate newsletter explaining all about the end of year learning posts in Hero, and how to interpret the curriculum level dials.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

**Liz Weir**  
**Principal**

**End of Year Events**

Things only get busier from here on in and we know that the next 3 weeks will fly by. Please note some of the key dates in our “Mark Your Calendar” section and add them to your (already busy) diary.

- Thursday November 30th - Kapa Haka Performance - 5pm start, at St Francis of Assisi School.
- Friday December 1st - Rāwhiti Day of Action
- Monday December 4th - Board of Trustees Meeting 5pm.
- Thursday December 7th - Parent Helpers Drinks 5pm
- Monday December 11th - Showcase Assembly 1pm
- Monday December 11th - Year 8 Dinner
- Tuesday December 12th—Rāwhiti Rumbustification Day
- Wednesday December 13th—Leavers Assembly 6pm
- Thursday December 14th—Poroporoaki in each Learning Studio 11am
- Thursday December 14th—School ends for the year 12pm.

**Rāwhiti ‘Rumbustification - Tues December 12th**

This is our annual whole school fun-day event to help our children celebrate the end of the school year. All the fun takes place here at school. Children head to their Learning Studio as usual in the morning and are to wear their school uniform for the day. They are also to bring: togs, rash top, towel, sunblock, morning tea (and lunch if they don’t eat school lunch), and school sunhat. This event is only for our students.

**Sports Uniforms**

There are a number of sports uniforms that are yet to be handed back in. Could you please check with your child if they have brought them back and if not can they please come in asap. If your child is traveling to the Canterbury Athletics on Wednesday they will hand their uniform in before they return home. Please ensure they have another top with them. If your child went to the Zone Athletics two weeks ago and is not traveling to the Canterbury Athletics please return their uniform asap. Thank you for your support in ensuring we have all uniforms returned.



# KAITIAKITANGA DAY OF ACTION

## FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER

The 'Kaitiakitanga Day of Action' will start with a whole school assembly at 9:15am.

Various activities celebrating our learning and different events are taking place across the day. Whānau are warmly invited to be a part of these - nau mai haere mai.

- Clean ups at North Beach, Thomson Park, Sea Eagles Park & areas at school
- Planting at the bike track area and North Beach sand dunes
- Displays of student work
- Activities in studios & around the school

**Market stalls 2:30-3:00pm**

Fundraising to support Radio Lollipop

**CHECK OUT  
THE FULL  
TIMETABLE**

Join us  
Come and be a part  
of the action!



**Kaitiakitanga Day of Action ~ Friday 1 December**

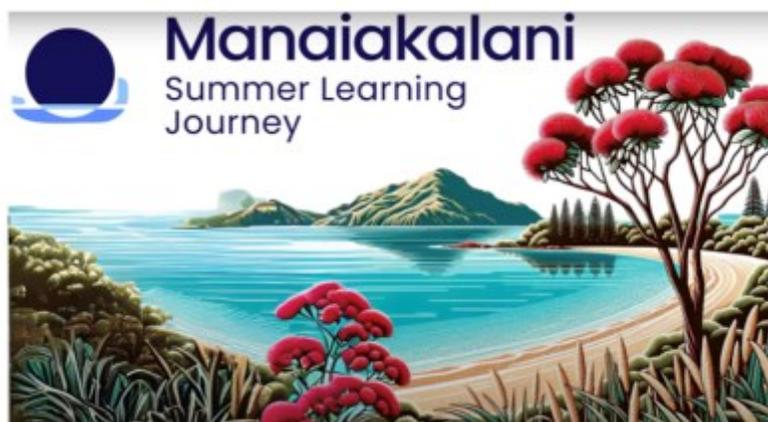
Parents and whānau are invited and welcome to join us and celebrate our learning.



KEY = Activity, Location, Students involved

9:15 - 10:00	Assembly <b>Hall</b> Whole School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guest speaker from Radio Lollipop &amp; Guest musicians - Twin Harmony</li> <li>- Presentation by Creatives in Schools student group</li> <li>- Tāwhirimātea dance group</li> </ul>				
10:00	Beach Clean Up <b>North Beach</b> Ata Hapara students	Park Clean up <b>Thomson Park</b> Tāne Mahuta students	Cooking with produce <b>Tāwhirimātea</b> Tāwhirimātea students			
10:15				Tukutuku panel launch <b>Library</b> Creatives in Schools / Harakeke group		
10:40	Morning Tea					
11:15	Park Clean Up <b>Sea Eagles Park</b> Tāwhirimātea students	Planting <b>School Bike Track</b> Tangaroa students	Clean up & Installation of art sculpture <b>Hikihiki (front playground area)</b> Aotahi students	Planting and regeneration of the sand dunes <b>North Beach</b> Papatūānuku students	Tours of Papa Whakaari <b>Amphitheatre area</b> <b>School</b> Papatūānuku students	Recycling & Reusing activities <b>Haumiatiketike</b> Ata Hapara students
12:15	Lunch Break					
1:00	Clay Bug Painting <b>Rongomātāne</b> Rongomātāne students	Manu presentations & videos <b>Haumiatiketike</b> Ata Hapara students	Displays of learning - bug houses, pest control, pollination, podcast and climate action <b>Tāne Mahuta</b> Tāne Mahuta students	Planting <b>School Bike Track</b> Tangaroa & Tāwhirimātea students	STEM Tree Challenge <b>Tāwhirimātea</b> Tāwhirimātea students	Bee Bots Kaitiakitanga game & Podcast <b>Library</b>
2:00	Afternoon Break					
2:30	Market Stalls <b>Hall</b> * Bug houses * recipe books * wax wraps * baking * seedlings * eco-friendly clearing supplies * products made from recycled materials * * upcycled items * 2nd hand clothing * and more					

**Year 4 to 8 Summer Learning Journey**



The Summer Learning Journey starts Monday 11th December!

Registrations open on Monday 27th November.

[Watch Summer Learning Journey Promotional Video](#)

[Click here](#) for the Flyer!



### School Accounts

With just three weeks of school remaining there is still over \$20,000 of outstanding costs on school accounts for things like sport, touch, camps and trips, uniforms and the take home component of technology.

We are very mindful of the difficult financial situation some of our families find themselves in and are sensitive to those who might be struggling to afford their contribution to these additional experiences for their children.

If you are in a position to be able to clear your account before the end of the school year then we would very much appreciate you doing this. You can come in to the office to pay by cash or eftpos or you can make online payments into the school account which is:

12-3240-0211804-01

(please put your child's name as a reference).

If you want to view your account details, click on "Finance" in the Hero app. Contact Cheryl in the office via email on [exec@rawhiti.school.nz](mailto:exec@rawhiti.school.nz) if you're not sure how to access your account information in Hero or if you would like to know if you owe anything.

### Top Town

Our children enjoyed lots of fun activities when the "Top Town" crew came from Sport Canterbury came this week.



### Optional Chromebook Purchase 2023/2024

The impending Year 4 students, for 2024, will use Chromebooks (not iPads) to continue their journey of digital learning. We have 1:1 Chromebooks for students at Rāwhiti School from Year 4 to Year 8. If a student doesn't have their own Chromebook they can use a school-owned Chromebook. Purchasing a Chromebook for your child is optional.

Ura Mānuku have released their new Chromebook Purchase Bundle for 2023/2024. The bundle is \$520 including GST.

Orders are made at <https://www.urumanuka.org.nz/buy-a-chromebook>

All devices are managed under our Google admin. For more information on why we manage Chromebooks visit: <https://bit.ly/3FPIfyQ>

If you have any questions please email me:

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