



Newsletter #20 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 8th December 2023

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kaea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou,

And just like that - the school year is done—only 3.5 days left!

There is still plenty happening here at school before we finish up next Thursday lunchtime - so here is a final rundown of next week for you.

Monday Dec 11th:

- Showcase Assembly 1pm
- 2024 Information envelopes coming home including studio placements, stationery lists etc
- Year 8 Dinner

Tuesday Dec 12th:

- Rāwhiti Rumbustification Day (at school, Rāwhiti students only)

Wednesday Dec 13th:

- Leavers' Assembly 6pm - all children expected to attend

Thursday Dec 14th:

- Poroporoaki in each Learning Studio—School finishes at 12pm

Please do bring your children to the Leavers Assembly on Wednesday at 6pm. This special assembly is a whole school event at which we recognise a range of achievements, celebrate our year, and farewell our Year 8 students. It's a chance for everyone at Rāwhiti School to acknowledge our senior students and wrap up the year in a collaborative way. The usual running time is 1 hour.

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**Mark Your
Calendar**

DECEMBER

- 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 ...**Cluster Kapa Haka Festival**

Our first ever cluster Kapa Haka festival was a huge success and looks set to become an annual event for our cluster schools. It was wonderful to see so many Rāwhiti whanau in attendance - thank you all for your support.



Despite the drizzly weather, our Rāwhiti group shone. It is hard not to be biased - but I thought they were the star performers of the evening!

All credit for our amazing performance has to go to Matua Travis and his support team of Racheal, Jasmine and Koha. Through his skill and patience, Travis has brought out the best in our tamariki.

**Thank you from Radio Lollipop**

Our 'Day of Action' was a huge success and we were delighted to be able to donate \$904.60 to Radio Lollipop, money raised by each of our learning studios efforts on the day. The team at Radio Lollipop were blown away, and have told us that this is the most money raised by an individual school. The Chairperson sent me the following message:

"Seasonal Greetings. I just wanted to once again thank you and acknowledge the difference you and the tamariki of Rāwhiti school have made to children in hospital. With your help this year the 14 schools that took part in fundraising for us raised an amazing \$7915.39. This money will help us to continue to make a difference to the children and families we interact with at Christchurch Hospital each night."

2024 Teaching Teams

The teaching teams for 2024 have been finalised:

- Tangaroa—Year 7-8 Sharon Thompson (Team Leader), Andrew Redmond, Talei Cordes and Nicole Johnson (Mon-Wed)
- Tāwhirimātea—Year 4-6 Urmi Shah (Team Leader), Sharon Robertson (Mon-Thurs), Rachel Beaumont (Mon-Thurs), Marcella Wood and Caroline Briggs on Fridays.
- Tāne Mahuta—Year 4-6: Eugene Beconsall (Team Leader), Fi Glasgow, Kathy Lumley (Mon - Thurs), Elizabeth Kazmierczak on Fridays.
- Haumia-tiketike— Year 1-8: Jasmine Stirling (Team Leader), Racheal Cooper, Travis Cooper and Koha Mason
- Papatūānuku— Year 1-3: Courtney Ruske, Emma Burgess and Lisa Handley.
- Rongo-mā-tāne— Year 1-3: Amy Hurst, Nigel Stewart, Jude Seeto (Mon-Wed) and Lauren McDonnell (Thurs & Fri).
- Aotahi NE-Yr 1: Helen Hogarth (Team Leader) and Brogan O'Neil.

Our release teaching team will be made up on Elizabeth Kazmierczak, Marcella Wood, Caroline Briggs and Louse Wynn.

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From The Principal continued ...**Congratulations Amy and Koha!**

Congratulations to Amy (Papatūānuku) and Koha (Haumia-tiketike) who have both achieved their Full Teacher Registration.

**Important Information for the start of the 2024 School Year**

- Wednesday January 31st Goal Setting Interviews (Information on how to book is being sent home in the envelopes on Monday).
- Thursday February 1st Normal classes start. Mihi Whakatau at 9.15am
- Monday February 5th School Closed
- Tuesday February 6th Waitangi Day School Closed
- Thursday February 8th Ready Set Go Family Fun Night 5-7pm. (Information in the envelopes being sent home on Monday).

And finally.....

This will be the last newsletter for the year and I want to take the opportunity to thank all those who have supported our school. In particular our Board of Trustees whose work is often unnoticed but never the less is extremely important, especially dealing with all of the legislation and regulations that schools must comply with.

Thank you also to our newly revitalised and very caring PTA. Their enthusiasm knows no bounds and the work they do not only raises money for the extras for our tamariki, but they also have a focus on fun and community.

Thank you to all our volunteers. Schools are always reliant on partnerships with whānau to make them work. We'd like to thank all those parent volunteers who have supported the school throughout the year. This is a large group which includes sports coaches, team managers, those who have helped with camps and class trips, experts who help with units of work and class activities, and those who have supported the school financially - to name a few of the roles we rely on whānau to help with. Your help does not go unnoticed, so thank you from the whole team here at Rāwhiti.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a safe and happy holiday.
Meri Kirihimete, kia haumaruru te noho, e hoa mā.

Liz Weir
Principal

Rāwhiti Rumbustification - Tuesday 12th December

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.



Have you seen this Tamagotchi?

Has this turned up at your house? A parent dropped it on our Day of Action market day and it was a present for their child which is proving hard to replace. Please return it to the office if you have seen it—thank you.



Free Santa Photos with "The Chicago Santa"

Tyrone delivers our school lunches every day but at this time of year he is also a "Santa".



Next Wednesday 13th December at 8am, "The Chicago Santa" and his photography team will be setting up in our amphitheatre and if you would like your child/ren to have a photo with "Santa" (and parents can hop in too if you like) their team will take the photos for free. The photos will be posted on ["The Chicago Santa's Facebook page"](#), you tell them which photo you would like, and they will send it to you—for free also. It's Tyrone's way of helping those who would like a Santa photo but might be finding things a bit tough or don't have the time (or energy) to take the children to the mall for photos.

Go check out ["The Chicago Santa" Facebook page](#).



Wednesday 13th December, 8am-9am, Rāwhiti School Amphitheatre

SCAPE Public Art

Millicent Brown, pupil at [Rāwhiti School](#) in North New Brighton, created this artwork for the Re:ACTIVATE competition. It's all about the gift of happiness, and it's so awesome that we made it into a greetings card.

We gave a bunch to Millicent, her whānau, and her teachers. Because they're awesome.

You can get some too, and give happy to your loved ones.

Available in packs of 5 and 10 from our online artshop; proceeds help SCAPE produce public art and offer education programmes to awesome kids.

<https://www.scapepublicart.org.nz/shop/>



Our Amazing New Tukutuku Panel—Come See It In The Library

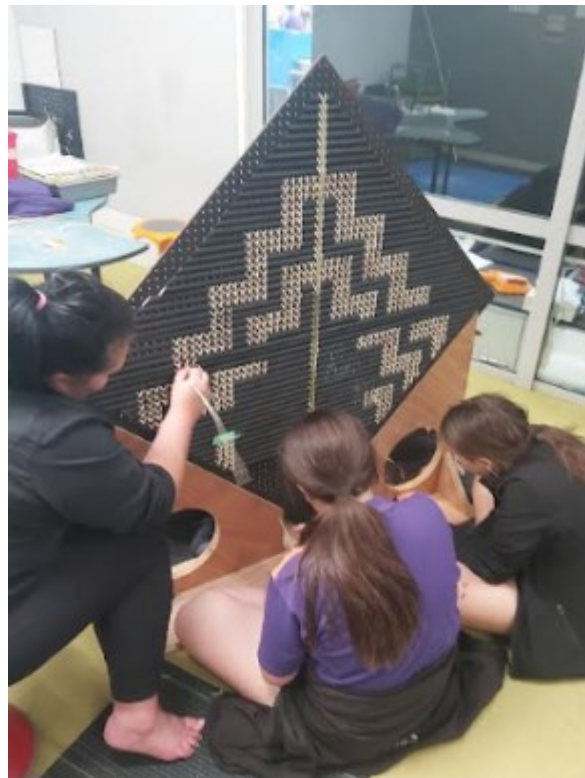
Last term a group of Y7&8 students from Tangaroa and Ata Hapara worked with a local weaver, Lisa Harding as part of the Creatives in Schools programme. Together they have designed and created an incredible taonga for our school.

These students have learnt an enormous amount about harakeke throughout the project - tikanga, how the plant can be used but most importantly how to care for and be a kaitiaki of this valuable resource. As part of their learning they have been tidying up some of the harakeke around our school.

In te ao Māori, people are closely connected to the land and nature. This group of students have created an artwork that tells about the taiao, our local environment, our school, and our place.

Kaitiakitanga can also apply to valued items, and this tukutuku is certainly that. It now belongs to all of us. It is to be cared for by all of us, so that the story and elements reflected in their design and the huge amount of mahi, hours and hours, is recognised, appreciated, protected and shared for the many Rāwhiti students who are yet to come to this place.

It is now up in its permanent home in the library. When you get a chance come and check out the students' amazing work. You can read more about the tukutuku in this [brochure](#).



Thanks To The Surfing Team

Huge thank you to Tim and the team from "The Rock" who have coached a group surfing for six weeks. The group made tremendous progress and their confidence on the surfboard improved each week. Big thank you also to Kathy and James from Frame 'n' Copy 2/169 Bowhill Road for sponsoring this experience.



Go Looking For Elmer This Summer

Elmer is now out with the herd! Our elephant 'Be extraordinary' is located at the New Brighton Library.

If you are looking for something to do over the summer break, see if you can find all 60 sculptures around the city.



Tāne Mahuta Climate Changers

Listen to the full podcast
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