



Newsletter #2 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 29th February 2024

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou,

Everyone seems to be enjoying our leaning concept of Action, and children have certainly been very active over the past two weeks. Our competitive swimmers had a chance to qualify for the Zones at our school swimming sports, and our Year 4-8 children have completed the Beach Ed programme, thanks to generous funding from Sport Canterbury. Our junior classes have been taking part in Exploring Active Travel workshops, and some of our classes in the middle school have had Food For Thought workshops this week. The Year 7&8 team have had 2 days of sailing on the Fox II over at Akaroa, and the juniors have had football and netball sessions with Parklands Sport. So, if you ask your child what they have been doing at school and they say 'nothing' - don't believe them!



Our staff team are in training for the City to Surf in a few weeks time, and we are all looking forward to the Walk or Wheel to School activities that will take place all of next week. Further on in this newsletter you will find a flyer letting you know what is happening each day.



The big event of next week will be the Junior Triathlon, which gets underway at 1pm on Thursday 7th March. You are all welcome to come along and support your little athletes.



Mark Your Calendar

MARCH

- 1st NE Cohort 2 Parent Morning Tea, 9.15am
- 4-8 Walk/Wheel to School Week
- 6th Y8 Parent Camp Info Evening, 6pm
- 7th Junior Triathlon, 1-2pm
- 15th Zone Swimming
- 18th PCT Cowles Stadium (Y7/8)
- 18-25 Y6 Cycle Safety
- 19th 1pm School Closing—Teacher Union Meeting**
- 21st Kapa Haka Duke Festival Opening, Carnaby Lane
- 22 Mar—11 April Life Education
- 25th Board Meeting, 6pm
- 27th Canterbury Swimming
- 29th SCHOOL CLOSED—Good Friday**

APRIL

- 1&2 SCHOOL CLOSED—Easter**
- 12th Whole School Assembly
- 12th Last Day of Term 1



Early Finish Tuesday March 19th—1pm

The Board of Trustees has received formal notification that it must allow teachers to attend a union meeting during work hours next month. The most convenient meeting for our school is to be held on the afternoon of **Tuesday, March 19th**. We are asking that children are collected from school no later than 1pm 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. *We thank you in advance for your support.*

Communication Review

Last year the Board of Trustees commissioned a company to review our existing communications and recommend a pathway forward, that is supported by research. Some of you took part in the focus group discussions with the team from Papiermache and your feedback has been invaluable.

We have just received the review report and are pleased to hear that, overall, the current position of Rāwhiti School's communications is very positive. Using the Hero app ensures a single platform for accessing information and the review found that there was consistency and reliability in the way that we are communicating messages via Hero.

Throughout this year we will be working to implement suggestions from the review to enhance and refine our communication strategies, to ensure that they serve the needs of the school community.

As our first step, we have changed the day that our fortnightly whole school newsletter is published. According to research findings, newsletters sent out on Mondays, Fridays and weekends are less likely to be read, hence our change this year to publication on a Thursday. The Community Notices section will no longer be a part of the school newsletter and Kim will publish this document separately.

Attendance is important to your Child's Future

As part of the Government's Attendance and Engagement Strategy, ensuring high attendance continues to be a priority for The Ministry of Education. **We are required to closely monitor attendance of all students and ensure we are following up on any learners who have 5 or more full days of unjustified absences in a term.** Absences can be justified or unjustified:

Justified absence: An explained absence, within the school's policy as an acceptable reason for the student to be away from school, e.g:

- Absent due to short-term illness/medical reasons
- Justified absence – reason for absence within the school policy
- Stood down or suspended.



From The Principal continued ...

Unjustified absence: An absence that is either unexplained or, explained, but the explanation is not within the school's policy as an acceptable reason for the student to be away from school, e.g:

- No information or explanation
- Absent with an explained but unjustified reason
- Holiday during term time
- Unknown reason.

We urge you to think carefully about your child's attendance. There are 175 non school days in a year, so please ensure that, wherever possible, appointments, holidays and special trips occur outside of school hours.

**Liz Weir
Principal**



Healthy Active Learning Whānau Survey

Rāwhiti School has been a 'Healthy Active School' for the last few years. We have been working collaboratively with Sport Canterbury, Te Whatu Ora and the Ministry of Education to collectively have a measurable impact on the well-being of amariki across Waitaha Canterbury. Attached is a QR code with a survey for whānau to fill out. We value your feedback please scan this code to complete the survey.

Whānau Voice Survey - Rāwhiti School



Kia ora koutou,

My name is Helen and I'm a registered Social Worker with 10 years' experience and have been the Social Worker in Schools at Rawhiti for the past 4 years.

I provide confidential support & advocacy to tamariki, parents / caregivers & whānau, to help with a wide range of challenges. I can help with:

- giving tamariki & whānau a safe space to talk about worries
- providing parenting support
- supporting with emotional regulation, social skills, grief, transitions, parental separation, trauma, attachment etc
- supporting people to link in / access specialist supports / assessments
- safety issues
- conflict
- mental health
- financial hardship

If you think you might like some support or aren't sure what type of support it is that you're needing, please feel free to flick me a text / give me a ring or you can let someone at the school know you are interested in touching base with me: **Helen 027 276 6809**

Walk or Wheel to School Week

Prize draw for those who take part - see your studio teacher for your Passport card.

Monday 4 March - Friday 8 March

This year Rāwhiti School is participating in the annual Christchurch City Council promotion Walk or Wheel to School Week. It fits perfectly with our learning concept of 'Action'.

As well as the CCC daily activities we have our own extra activities that children can be a part of too.

Move it Monday



Let's get moving! Start your Walk or Wheel to School week with an active way of getting to school!

Let's see if we can get the scooter and bike stands full!

Aotahi students can collect a scavenger hunt from their class to complete on the way to school.

Tangaroa work out the distance from your house to school ... how far can the studio travel in a week!

Travel together Tuesday



Let's celebrate walking or wheeling to school with friends and whanau!

Tane Mahuta can meet their teachers at Waimairi Surf Club at 8:15 am to walk to school together.

Tāwhirimātea can walk with their teachers after school and be picked up at the end of Leaver Terrace by the North Beach coffee shed

Wheelie Wednesday



Show off your wheels! Bike, scooter, skate or rollerblade to school!

Pimp your ride!

Rongomātane, Papatūānuku, Aotahi and Ata Hapara students will be hosting a parade to show off their fancy wheels.



Thoughtful Thursday



Walking and wheeling helps create a healthier planet! How else can you help our environment?

Tane Mahuta meet at the Athletics Club on Keyes Road at 8:15am to walk to school together.

Tāwhirimātea can walk after school and be picked up at the end of Leaver Terrace by the North Beach coffee shed

The Junior Triathlon is on! Races start from 1 pm

Funky feet Friday



Dress your feet - wear your funkiest footwear (wheelies, gumboots, football boots etc.) or jazz up your trainers with glitter, tinsel, feathers - whatever you're thinking!

Studios will collect in the Passport cards for some prize draws!

There are other prizes to be won and full details of Walk or Wheel to School Week on the Christchurch City Council Facebook page

