



Newsletter #7 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 10th June 2024

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

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

**Kia ora koutou,** I hope you enjoyed the extra day over the King's Birthday long weekend. Our teachers had a very productive time here at school on the Teacher Only Day, continuing their work on unpacking the Literacy and Numeracy components of the refreshed curriculum. We also looked at AI and how teachers can use this to plan more efficiently, as well as create individualised texts for particular students. To keep us focused on our learning concept of Action, we also worked with a Healthy Active Schools facilitator on how to get the most out of 15 minutes of physical activity each day. Our Teacher Aides were also hard at work with one of our MoE Educational Psychologists, focusing on how to help vulnerable tamariki who are experiencing a stress response. We have a large team of TAs and they are often the 'front line' when children are in crisis.



Winter sport got underway on Friday and we are very grateful to those who have put their hands up to either coach or manage a team. Most of our children love being involved in organised sport and competing regularly against the local schools but we can only field teams when we have the correct numbers of adults to provide support. Bex Banfield has taken over organising sport here at school and is doing an excellent job of juggling the volunteers that she has. If you think you can help out please do let Bex know by emailing [sport@rawhiti.school.nz](mailto:sport@rawhiti.school.nz)

Like many other schools, we are experiencing very high levels of both student and staff sickness at the moment. The last few weeks have seen an increase in Covid cases, tummy bugs, flu-like

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## Mark Your Calendar

### JUNE

- 13th Nanogirl Visiting
- 14th Scholastic Book Club Closes
- 18th Next Cohort New Entrant Parent Morning Tea
- 20th PTA Meeting, 6.30pm
- 24th BOT Meeting, 6pm
- 26th Canterbury Cross Country
- 26th Dancing Like The Stars, 6pm
- 27th Matariki Celebrations 2pm
- 28th NO SCHOOL—Matariki**

### JULY

- 1st Y7/8 Zones Basketball
- 2-3 Science Fair
- 4th Matariki Discos
- 5th Jumping June, 9.15am
- 5th Last Day of Term 2
- 6-21 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**
- 22nd Term 3 Starts



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

symptoms and scabies. You may have heard in the media about the shortage of relieving teachers and it is a very real issue for us. Some days we are having to try and find a reliever for the reliever, as they have also picked up a bug from school and are unable to work. We regularly have days when we are short a teacher or two, and our other teachers have to cover for their colleagues, so we really do appreciate you keeping sick children at home. We will keep you updated if we need to start reorganising particular classes to manage teacher absence.

**Principal on Leave**

This is my last newsletter for quite some time. I feel very fortunate to have been awarded the 2023 Canterbury Primary Principals Fellowship. The CPPA Fellowship provides the recipient with paid leave and a grant to undertake an in-depth inquiry or research, in an area of educational interest, which will be of both personal benefit and of benefit to other principals and schools.

I will be on leave from school from Friday, June 14th through to Monday, September 9th. In my absence, our highly accomplished Deputy Principals - Paul Wilkinson and Helen Parata - will be acting in my role, and I know that I am leaving you in great, experienced, hands. I look forward to catching up with everyone again in the spring time.

So what will I be researching?

Once every three years teachers in New Zealand must formally declare that they have continued to develop and practice te reo me ngā tikanga Māori while practicing as a teacher. The requirement has been part of the teachers' professional standards for years, but in 2021 the Teaching Council made it an explicit part of the recertification process. In addition, a professional leader must attest that this is correct and endorse that the teacher has, in fact, shown progress in te reo me ngā tikanga Māori as required by the Standards/Ngā Paerewa.

However, there is currently no definitive level of language competency required by teachers which means that it may well be challenging for professional leaders to determine what constitutes progress as there seems to be no level to work towards or be measured against. The focus of my research is the ways principals currently attest to teachers' ongoing development and practice of te reo me ngā tikanga Māori during the re-registration process.

**Term 3 Learning Conversations**

Towards the end of this term bookings will open for the Learning Conversations happening early in Term 3. We have taken on board feedback about the format we have been using and are pleased to advise that there will be some changes this year. During your 30 minute appointment there will still be an opportunity for your child to share their learning and achievements with you, but there will also be a 15 minute slot for you and your child to meet individually with their literacy teacher, who will also be able to give you an overview of all of their current achievements. You will book a specific 15 minute time-slot to meet with the teacher.

**Liz Weir**  
**Principal**

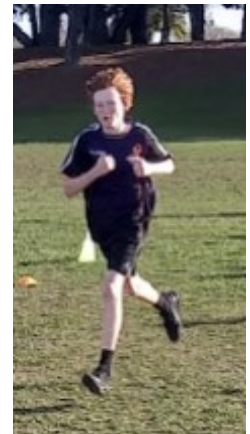
## Eastern Zones Cross Country Queenspark

On Tuesday, 28th May, 46 Rāwhiti students competed in the Eastern Zone Cross Country event at Queenspark. We commend all participants for their effort and determination on the hilly course.

A special congratulations to the students who placed in the top 10:

- Year 8 Girls- Anika M
- Year 8 Boys- Lachlan P
- Year 7 Girls- Stella M, Jaelyn and Zita
- Year 7 Boys- Archie and Joel T
- Year 6 Boys- Liam C
- Year 5 Girls - Millicent
- Year 5 Boys- Koa, Vinnie and Nate F.

Well done to everyone who completed the course on the day!



## Resources for Whanau/Families

The Attendance Service have shared a website called [“Listening To Families”](#) which has links to various resources whanau may find useful. Topics include:

[ADHD](#)

[Anxiety](#)

[Autism](#)

[Child, Adolescent and Family \(CAF\) Service](#)

[Chronic Fatigue Syndrome](#)

[Coeliac Disease](#)

[Eating Challenges](#)

[Emotion Regulation](#)

[Executive Function](#)

[Gender Diversity](#)

[General practice](#)

[Information for Pasifika families](#)

[Medication for Mental Health](#)

[Pharmacy](#)

[Post Traumatic Mental Injury \(PTMI\)](#)

[Sensory processing](#)

[Sexual Abuse](#)

[Sexualised behaviour](#)

[Staying Safe and Well online](#)

[Suicide](#)

[Supporting Families](#)

[Trauma](#)

