



Newsletter #7 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 22nd May 2025

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

Message from the Presiding Member of the Rāwhiti School Board to the Parent Community

Following an incident earlier this week, the Board wishes to remind our parent community of the expectations set out in the Rāwhiti School Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Visitors. Our school must remain a safe and respectful environment for all children, staff, and whānau. Behaviour that is aggressive, intimidating, or disrespectful—whether in person, online, or in front of students—will not be tolerated. The Board will not hesitate to take appropriate action to protect the wellbeing of our students and staff. We thank you for upholding our RISE values and for being positive role models for our tamariki.

Cheryl Lineham, Presiding Member



**Mark Your
Calendar**

MAY

- 23 Non-uniform Day Reward
- 23 Assembly, 9.15am
- 23 Y5-8 Winter Sport Begins
- 26 New Entrant Cohort #2 Starts
- 27 T3 NE Parent morning tea
- 28 Wheelie Wednesday

JUNE

- 2 **SCHOOL CLOSED—King's Birthday Holiday**
- 18 Canterbury Cross Country
- 18 Cultural Learning Celebration
- 20 **SCHOOL CLOSED—Matariki**
- 23 BOT Meeting, 6pm
- 25 PTA Meeting, 7pm
- 27 Assembly, 9.15am
- 27 Last Day of Term 2

28 June—13 July SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

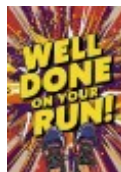
JULY

- 14 Term 3 begins

From The Principal - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou,

On Tuesday our team of 30 took part in the Eastern Zone Cross Country at Queenspark School, with some fantastic results achieved. The following children will be representing us at Canterbury cross country:
Y6: Millicent, Nate F, Noah B, Koa, Jessie
Y7: Ben
Y8: Jaelyn-Rae, Daisy-Jaye, Zita, Evie, Archie, Joel



From The Principal continued ...

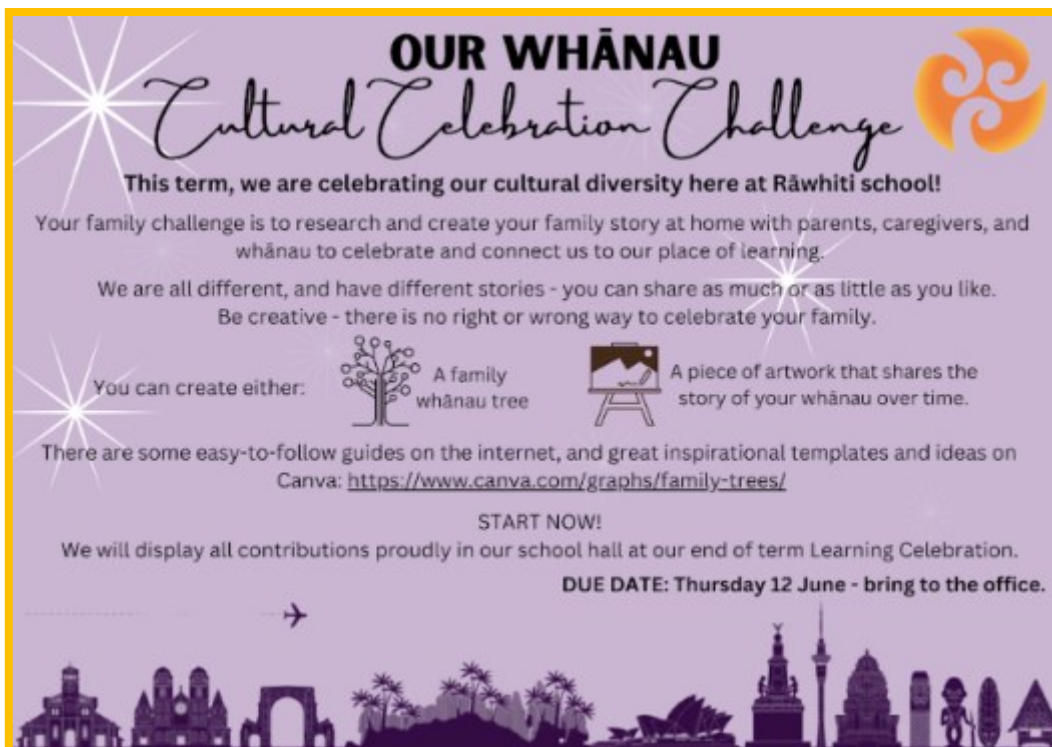
Last week the Education Review Office spent three days here at school reviewing how our school operates and the quality of the learning experiences that our children are receiving. While we will not receive the final report for quite some time, we are celebrating the feedback that was shared with us prior to the team leaving. They noted that:

- Learners' strong sense of belonging, wellbeing, and pride in their school is evident. They experience a positive, inclusive, and supportive learning environment that celebrates their cultures, languages, and identities.
- All learners are well supported to progress and achieve very well in reading, writing, and maths, enabling all learners to access the full curriculum.
- Learning programmes are based around annual concepts of substance, significance, and relevance that help children to make connections and see a real purpose for their learning.
- A strong school-wide culture of collaboration supports leadership and teachers to systematically reflect on and adapt their practice to improve teaching and learning, and positively impact on learner outcomes.
- Well-considered staff professional development is targeted, planned, and purposely implemented for ongoing improvement of teaching and learning.
- Active participation and expertise gives positive effect to Te Tiriti across the school.

We look forward to sharing the full report with you in due course.

Coming up in a few weeks time we have our whole school Learning Celebration for the term. Please make a plan to join us on Wednesday, June 18th between 5—7pm to celebrate our diverse community and the spirit of Matariki with an evening of fun, food and culture.

There is also an opportunity for your family to get involved in the learning by taking on our whānau Cultural Celebration Challenge. Create a visual representation of your family story and bring it along to display on the night.



OUR WHĀNAU
Cultural Celebration Challenge

This term, we are celebrating our cultural diversity here at Rāwhiti school!

Your family challenge is to research and create your family story at home with parents, caregivers, and whānau to celebrate and connect us to our place of learning.

We are all different, and have different stories - you can share as much or as little as you like.
 Be creative - there is no right or wrong way to celebrate your family.

You can create either:

- A family whānau tree
- A piece of artwork that shares the story of your whānau over time.

There are some easy-to-follow guides on the internet, and great inspirational templates and ideas on Canva: <https://www.canva.com/graphs/family-trees/>

START NOW!

We will display all contributions proudly in our school hall at our end of term Learning Celebration.

DUE DATE: Thursday 12 June - bring to the office.

Continued from the Principal ...

Pink Shirt Day

Thank you for supporting Pink Shirt Day last Friday. At Rāwhiti School we have clear expectations for respectful behaviour and we work hard to address bullying. Unfortunately, being talked to by a staff member or the principal does not fix the problem - or there would be no bullying at all.

We know that the values our tamriki learn at home, and the conversations you have as a whānau, make a huge difference. Tamariki learn how to treat others by watching adults - not just their teachers but their whānau, sports coaches, neighbours, and community leaders. Every interaction that they witness teaches them something about power, kindness and inclusion.

Let's stop seeing bullying as just a school problem. It's a community challenge - and with that comes the power of collective action.

So what can we do?

- Be an Upstander if you witness bullying, support the person being targeted and report the behaviour.
- Make sure family members don't become involved in the playground issues of their brothers and sisters at school. It is not their job. If there is a problem, get an adult.
- Promote kindness. Create environments - at work, at home, and online - where respect is expected and modelled.
- Keep an eye on online behaviour. Cyber bullying is sadly common, and often invisible to adults.
- DO not approach other parent's children. When there is a problem tell your child's teacher.

Together we can build a community where everyone feels safe, accepted and valued for who they are.

Term 3 Teacher Only Day

The Board has approved the closing of the school on **Friday, August 22nd** for the second of the professional development days allocated by the Ministry of Education.

2026 Term Dates

The Board has approved the following term dates for 2026:

- Term 1: Monday Feb 2nd - Thursday April 2nd.
- Term 2: Monday April 20th - Friday July 3rd.
- Term 3: Monday July 20th - Friday Sept 25th.
- Term 4: Monday Oct 12th - Wednesday Dec 16th



Prior to classes starting on February 2nd there will be opportunities to meet with your child's teacher on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th of January.

Aotahi

Next week we welcome a new cohort of students into Aotahi and we also welcome **Kimberly Savage** who will be teaching alongside Brogan for the rest of the term.

Ngā mihi, Liz Weir

Non-uniform Day School Reward—Fri 23 May

Our token reward box is full and we are celebrating all the children who show our RISE values in action at school. There is no cost for coming in non uniform clothes this Friday 23rd May.

Well done everyone.

From the Student Council



Thank you to everyone that supported Pink Shirt Day NZ last week. Our school raised just over \$430 for the cause. Thank you!

Basketball Update

This year we have got five teams in the Cowles Stadium competition—3 girls teams and 2 boys teams. There are lots of new players starting out and they are making great progress. We have had a few wins already which is encouraging.

This competition runs through to next term. It is a long season but we are looking forward to seeing lots of progress and new skills. Thank you to all our parent helpers who have been helping with coaching and managing. Our children couldn't enjoy these experiences without your help and support.

**Success@Rawhiti**

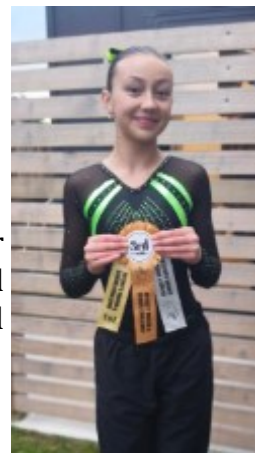
Congratulations to Stella who attended her first gymnastics competition at this level last week.

1st equal for her floor routine

2nd equal for her uneven bars routine

3rd place overall for the team

Well done Stella! Your achievements were well deserved and shows that hard work definitely pays off!



Wednesday Challenge “Wheelie Wednesday”

28th May 2025

Dress up your wheels!

Prizes to be won.

See us at the main gate.



Whole School Reward Token Boxes

As part of the School Wide Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L-SW) approach that we have here, we give out tokens to students to celebrate seeing them displaying our School Rise Values - Resilience, Integrity, Success, Empathy.



For example, when students use the designated school crossing in the morning, they are showing Integrity - 'we do the right thing even when no one is looking', and will receive a token! They also receive them in their studio, but mainly in the playground. You will find our token boxes just inside the door in the library. You can pop in with your child, see the options for the next whole school reward, and post the token to vote for their choice.

Zones & Canterbury Cross Country

We ran our school senior cross country on Friday 9th May wondering if the rain was going to hold out for us. Luckily it did and the tamariki did fantastically on our track around the school grounds.

The following group of runners headed to the Zones this week at Queenspark School. Well done to everyone that ran our cross country and a massive congratulations to the following students:

Year 4 girls - Kaia, Piper, Tāwera
 Year 4 boys - Mahe, Mason P, William
 Year 5 girls - Edie, Opal, Aria B
 Year 5 boys - Charlie W, Ted, Luka N
 Year 6 girls - **Millicent**, Alice, Ailia
 Year 6 boys - **Nate, Jessie, Koa, Noah B**
 Year 7 girls - Lexi, Harper, Nyah
 Year 7 boys - **Ben**, Waharoa, Jake
 Year 8 girls - **Jaelyn-Rae, Zita, Daisy, Evie**
 Year 8 boys - **Archie, Joel, TK**

The children in **purple** placed at zones so they will be going to Canterbury's next month.

Term 2, 2025 Cultural Learning Celebration

Come and celebrate culture at our school!
 Wednesday, 18 June, 5-7 pm

- Shared Kai**
Bring a plate or enjoy food trucks
- Cultural Parade**
Wear your traditional clothing
- Scavenger Hunt**
Explore cultural activities
- Family Display**
Show off your family challenge
- World Map**
Pin where you are from!
- More details to follow...

Join us to celebrate our diverse community and the spirit of Matariki with food, fun, and culture!

Nau mai, haere mai – Everyone's invited!

Featuring Your Rāwhiti School Students

Kōwhai [redacted] & **Isobel** [redacted] as an Extension Dancer

BOOK NOW!
 Tickets via **TICKETEK**

CATS
 Young Artists Edition
 23-25 May | Open Theatre Place | DUNEDIN

RAISING NEURODIVERSE KIDS

FREE EVENT!

Register now via Humanatix: tinyurl.com/4tyt9k

Alison Schroeder
 Director/Speech Language Therapist, Socially Speaking

Kaliya Helle, Ngāi Tahu
 Practice Leader/Registered Social Worker, Christchurch Methodist Mission

An evening of understanding, strategies, and support for parenting children with ADHD and/or Autism

Thursday 12th June 2025
 7-9pm
 111 Seaview Rd, New Brighton

HOSTED BY YOUTH ALIVE TRUST AND MANA AKE

Parent Seminars

Use discount code "take20" for cheaper ticket prices. Tickets must be purchased by 29th May 2025.

Beneath Behaviour: Guiding Children from Emotional Turbulence.



Seminar for parents, caregivers and professionals

Christchurch - Wednesday 4 June 7pm – 9pm

Auckland – Friday 6 June 7 pm - 9pm

Every tantrum, resistance, and frustration in children reveals their developmental struggles and emotional immaturity. In this illuminating presentation, discover how to interpret these challenging behaviours in toddlers through teens that often leave adults confused and exasperated. Learn why the path to emotional maturity is longer than we expect, and how adults can confidently guide children through developmental storms without adding to the turbulence. Rather than seeing difficult behaviours as just problems, gain insights into the emotional forces driving these actions and practical strategies to lead children toward maturity. By understanding what lies beneath the behaviour, parents, teachers, and caregivers can transform moments of opposition into opportunities for growth, helping children develop the emotional maturity to engage with the world responsibly—even when no one is watching.

This seminar, relevant for parents, caregivers, teachers and professionals will be presented by Dr. Deborah MacNamara.

Deborah is a clinical counsellor and educator with more than 25 years' experience working with children, youth, and adults. She is on Faculty at the Neufeld Institute, operates a counselling practice, and speaks regularly about child and adolescent development to parents, childcare providers, educators, and mental health professionals. She is also the author of the best-selling book *Rest, Play, Grow: Making Sense of Preschoolers (Or Anyone Who Acts Like One)*, a children's picture book *The Sorry Plane*, and her new book, *Nourished: Connection, Food, and Caring for our Kids (and everyone else we love)*. Deborah resides in Vancouver, Canada with her husband and two children.



While this event is a stand-alone event, it is also part of the Neufeld Aotearoa Conference '25: Navigating Mental Health and Behaviour Challenges

- for more information please visit our [website](#).

Parent Seminars

Use discount code "take20" for cheaper ticket prices. Tickets must be purchased by 29th May 2025.



Neufeld Aotearoa Conference 2025

Navigating Mental Health and Behaviour Challenges:

Insight and hope for Tamariki and Rangatahi

Christchurch. - Wednesday 4 June 2025

Auckland and Livestream- Friday 6 June 2025



When our tamariki and rangatahi struggle with mental health challenges, traditional approaches often miss a crucial truth: healing and growth are rooted in our fundamental human need for secure attachment.

Just as navigating any journey requires clear landmarks, supporting our young people through mental health challenges demands reliable guideposts along the way. This conference aims to inspire both parents and professionals by illuminating key landmarks that may be missing or overlooked. Through the lens of developmental science and evidence-based theory, we'll explore natural solutions that foster connection and build resilience.

This isn't just another mental health conference—it's a paradigm shift in how we understand and support young people's journey to wellbeing, grounded in the science of human connection.

Join us to gain fresh perspectives on supporting growth and wellbeing. You'll leave with renewed hope and a roadmap for ensuring our tamariki and rangatahi have the strong foundation they need to thrive.

This year, we are excited to transition from online to in-person events, with conferences held in Christchurch and Auckland and Livestream. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Deborah MacNamara from Canada, who will deliver the keynote presentation, and Dr. Gordon Neufeld, who will join us via Zoom for the closing keynote. Our Neufeld Aotearoa team will also offer a range of informative and engaging seminars.

For full Conference Schedule and details please click [here](http://www.neufeldaotearoa.org/events/) or go to www.neufeldaotearoa.org/events/

For queries please email - neufeldaotearoa@gmail.com.



Making Sense of Today's Feeding and Eating Problems

Neufeld Aotearoa Conference '25.

Pre-Conference Masterclass with Dr. Deborah MacNamara.



When - Tuesday 3 June 9.30am – 11.30am

Venue - Grace Vineyard Beach Campus Church
111 Seaview Road, New Brighton, Christchurch

We have never known so much about food and what our bodies need to survive yet we face ever increasing feeding and eating issues in our kids and teens. What has come undone and what do we need to do to get back on track? What if it wasn't just about food, or the table, or sitting beside each other to eat? We have missed something more critical to well-being that was meant to go along with eating. This issue couldn't be more urgent with eating issues mounting in our kids and teens.

Masterclass Objectives

- Understand the connection between attachment issues and feeding problems
- Deconstruct the role of emotional defence in eating challenges
- Provide a developmental and relational lens on the roots of eating issues from picky eating to a myriad of eating disorders.

Relevant for parents and professionals working with children, youth and/or their parents.

Join us just for the masterclass or come for the whole conference.

[Navigating Mental Health and Behaviour Challenges](#) - Insight and Hope for our Tamariki and Rangatahi.

For tickets please click [here](#)