



Newsletter #15 - Te Pānui o te kura a Rāwhiti: 9 October 2025

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi
Rising Above The Ordinary

From The Principals - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki

Kia ora koutou e te whānau

Welcome back to the new term! Wow! Where is the year going? This term is packed with all sorts of exciting learning and activities. Production is the big thing for next week. Make sure you get your tickets from the office.

At the end of last term we farewelled Liz Weir, our amazing Foundation Principal. We had several events at school to thank her and recognise her contribution to the amazing school that she has led for the past decade. We finished with a final assembly where the children sang, gave speeches, shared poems and cards and celebrated Liz in a moving and honouring manner. It was certainly a moment of reflection on all that has been achieved over the last 11 years and a fitting send off to an incredible leader. We wish Liz all the very best in her new position with the Education Review Office.

For Term 4 Helen Hogarth and Paul Wilkinson will be sharing the Acting Principal role while the newly elected Board appoints a new Principal. The appointment process is underway and we look forward to welcoming the new Principal in 2026. Helen and Paul are experienced school senior leaders and both have been Acting Principals at previous schools.



OCTOBER

- 10 Token Reward Day
- 13-17 Walk or Wheel Week
- 15 Out of zone ballet closes
- 15-16 School Production
- 20 School Board Meeting
- 21 School Athletics
- 22 PTA Meeting
- 23 Newsletter
- Strike Day (probable)

NOVEMBER

- 6 Newsletter
- 7 Whole School Assembly
- 10 Cohort #2 starts
- 11 New Entrant Parent morning tea
- 20 Newsletter



TERM 4 MEANS ...

HATS HATS HATS

On sale at the office for \$20.

We can even name them for you for free!



From The Principals continued ...

New Board

Congratulations to the newly elected Board members. We welcome back Jess Poff, Jodie Hohaia O'Sullivan, Gareth Frew (Presiding Member) and Helen Hogarth (Staff Representative) from our previous Board and we also welcome Johnathon Riddell and Sam Depree-Ludemann as first time Rāwhiti School Board members. We are grateful for your willingness to give up your time to the important work of governing Rāwhiti School.

Welcome to Jenna

We are pleased to welcome Jenna Timoti to Rāwhiti School for Term 4. Jenna will be working in the office admin area supporting Helen and Paul and taking on many of the responsibilities previously managed by Kim. If you are in the office, say hello and make her feel welcome.

Positive Behaviour for Learning

As part of our teaching of values and promoting positive behaviour the children get tokens which they can use to vote for whole school rewards. Last term the children voted for a **"Bring a toy to school"** day. This Friday (10th October) children can bring a toy to school. We ask that children do not bring toy weapons (guns, knives etc), electronic toys (e.g. game boys) or anything really precious or valuable. Toys come to school at your own risk.

**Ngā mihi nui,
Paul and Helen**



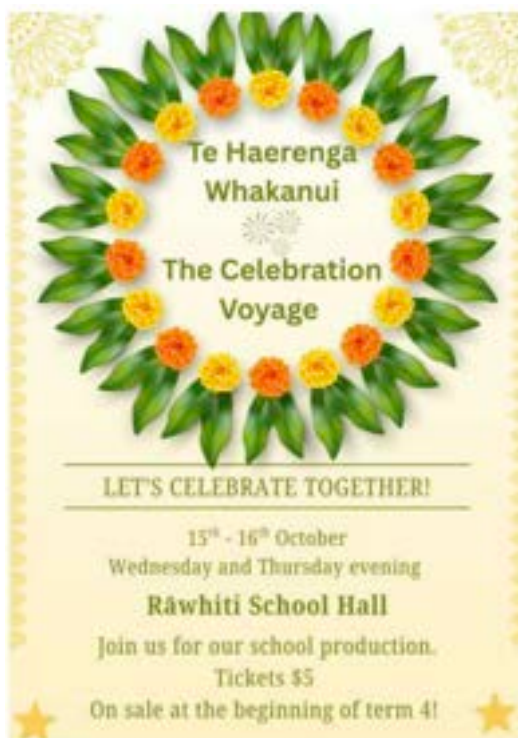
Whole School Token Reward

Our token box is FULL!!
This Friday we will all be enjoying the winning option -

Bring a Toy to School Day.

We ask that precious toys, electronics, and play weapons (cap guns, plastic swords, etc.) stay at home.

Please name all items.



School Production

The studios continue to work hard preparing their costumes, dances, and items for our upcoming school production. Make sure to mark the dates in your calendar!

Tickets are on sale NOW and are selling well. \$5 each.

You can buy 2 per household for a start and put your name down for extra if needed. On Monday if extra tickets are available, you will be contacted.

Strike Day - October 23

School will be closed for instruction on Thursday October 23rd if the strike goes ahead.

You may have seen in the news that educators across Aotearoa will be taking part in an historic national strike on Thursday 23 October.

For the first time, principals, teachers, support staff, and Ministry specialists are standing together to call for better support in schools, fair pay, and the resources our tamariki need to thrive.

This action is about more than pay. Health, Education, and Emergency Services are the foundations of our society, yet all remain under-funded and under-resourced.

Our schools, like hospitals and other frontline services, are not failing because of the people working in them — they are struggling because they have not been given the real investment needed to meet the needs of our communities.

For education, this means ensuring teacher aides are available in every classroom, valuing and fairly paying educators, providing secure and stable work, upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in education, and protecting quality early childhood education.

Our board has decided the school will be closed for instruction, we will not have enough staff onsite to ensure health and safety of all our tamariki. We ask families to please make alternative arrangements for the care of your children.

We understand this may cause disruption and thank you sincerely for your support and understanding. The decision to strike is not made lightly — it reflects the seriousness of the challenges education is facing and the urgent need for change.



Koru Games

Koru Games is a 3 day tournament for Year 7 and 8 students.

The 2025 games featured over 450 teams from 67 schools, with more than 3,500 students competing in 18 different sports over three days. Rāwhiti School entered 3 teams this year and they did extremely well in both results and attitude. Congratulations to all 3 of our teams.

We had lots of comments from other teams about their positivity and sportsmanship, and all their coaches were proud of them. Results: Girls Football 7th, Girls Dodgeball 2nd, Boys Dodgeball 1st.





Christchurch City Libraries'

Mānuka Stories School Reading Competition 2025!

October 6 – November 28

This term our school is taking part in Christchurch City Libraries' new competition to get schools and tamariki reading and hearing more stories. We're really excited to be part of this competition, and we need your help to meet our reading goal and go in the draw to win a \$500 PB Tech voucher to spend on our school!

Goal: 5K

Our goal is to read 5K of books across Year 0 to 8!

Help us reach our goal by:

- Reading to or with childchildren at home. Books sent home (in book bags) count! Junior Teachers will tally up the amount read each day and complete a blossom with the number of books read.
- Students can listen to Audiobooks, read eBooks (visit our library link below)
- Head into our Whare Matauranga and look for the Blossom BOX! Fill in a blossom and put this in the box.
- Teachers will also have blossoms.
- Blossoms head to Elizabeth where they get stuck on our 2.4 corflute tree in our Whare Matauranga

So join us in celebrating reading, stories, and books at our school this term. Check out the fabulous books available at our school library rawhiti.school.nz

