



Newsletter #14 - Te Pānui o te kura o Rāwhiti: 12th September 2024

E ara ake ana i te ūruhi

Rising Above The Ordinary

# From The Deputy Principals - Te Pū kāea a te Tumuaki Tuarua

Kia ora koutou,

Kāhore taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini. We cannot succeed without the support of those around us.

We have begun analysing your responses to the Community Consultation questions. We value your thoughts and ideas, and it has been interesting to read your varied and personal responses. Your responses will inform ongoing strategic planning and help to set the direction of learning that we (as a community) believe will best support our Rāwhiti students.

Thank you to all the families who contributed their thoughts around the direction for Rāwhiti School's next ten years. Winners of the \$50 Pak'n'save voucher are:

- Cations whānau RMT
- Scott whānau RMT
- Timbrell whānau PTN
- Alker whānau HTT
- Pavne whānau TM
- Donaldson whānau TWM
- Allan whānau TNG

There is a lot of information to collate and make sense of, but some common themes and ideas have begun to emerge. The word cloud shows the responses to the first question *'What type of person do you want me to be in 10 years time?'* The most recorded words were Kind (111), Happy (62), Confident (52) and Caring (37).





#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 13 School Photos
- 16 BOT Meeting, 6pm
- 24-26 Koru Games
- 27 Last Day of Term 3

# 28 Sep—13 Oct HOLIDAYS

#### **OCTOBER**

- 14 First Day of Term 4
- 21-25 Walk or Wheel To School
- 23 PTA AGM
- 25 Y4-8 Athletics Day
- 28 SCHOOL CLOSED—Labour Day

#### **NOVEMBER**

- 4 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 5 Zones Athletics
- 14 SCHOOL CLOSED—
  - **Teacher Only Day**
- 15 SCHOOL CLOSED—
  - **Show Day**
- 22 PTA Xmas Raffle Mufti
- 27 Children's University
  - Graduation
- 28 Te Ara Tuhura Cultural





# From The Deputy Principal's continued ...



## Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L)

At Rāwhiti School we aim to take a restorative approach when things have gone wrong. Restoring relationships requires the people who have caused harm to own their responsibility in the situation and be willing to make things right. Hearing the effect of our actions on others helps build empathy. Our staff have been working with various professional development facilitators over the last few years to help us better communicate with children when emotions are high or when harm has been caused. We are learning to communicate in better ways with neuro diverse children and those who have experienced trauma. We review our expectations and practices to ensure that they are clear and simple to follow. We examine trends in our data and discuss whether there are changes we can make to the environment to make things work better. We are always looking for ways to improve our communication with children, whānau and staff.

Unpacking situations takes time and requires listening. Please understand that we don't always get the full story and often we are guessing about a child's intent. We never set out to get things wrong or make things worse as we help untangle stories, facilitate apologies and make agreements about the future. We understand that you are your child's safe people and also their advocate. Sometimes things happen for children during the day but they wait until they get home to tell anyone about it. If your child comes home with a problem that you feel might not have been resolved or we might not know about, please contact their class teacher in the first instance.

At a recent PB4L hui the presenter spent a bit of time talking about routines. He explained that when we take the time to establish clear routines this lowers the cognitive load on children, who then are able to automate meeting expectations because of the repetition. This can significantly lower their stress levels. Something as simple as having school uniform out and ready to put on in the morning can help significantly at home and at school. At home when wearing uniform is an established routine it removes the need for any discussion or argument about what to wear. At school when children are wearing their uniform it means that teachers are not having to start the day with a potentially conflict or stress causing conversation about incorrect uniform.

# From The Deputy Principal's continued ...

#### **Curriculum update**

You may have seen media reports about the new Maths and English curricula that the government has recently consulted on. Rāwhiti School staff have been engaging with the information as it comes from the Ministry of Education. Some of our November 14th Teacher Only Day will be spent on professional development preparing our teachers for implementing the new curricula in 2025.

#### **Hero Posts**

Over the term teachers have been writing posts about this term's learning and publishing these to your Hero account. If you have the notifications turned on you will get an alert each time a new post is made. You can expect an update on your child's Literacy, and also a summary of your child's learning in Social Sciences, linked to our 2024 learning concept of Action. If your child is in Years 4-8 they will also have written their own reflection on an aspect of their learning this term, linked to our learning concept. If you have any questions about the Hero posts please check in with your child's teacher. If you don't have the Hero app downloaded to your phone and need help to get this set up, please touch base with Kim in the office.

Don't forget school photos are happening tomorrow (Friday 13th).

Ngā mihi nui, Helen Parata & Paul Wilkinson

# **Better Start Literacy Approach Survey**

As you may know, our school is involved in the Better Start Literacy Approach research project led by the University of Canterbury.

The University of Canterbury Research Team are asking whānau about their thoughts and opinions of the Better Start Literacy Approach using an online survey. The University of Canterbury research team do not have any of your contact details and will not know whether you have participated in the survey or not. It will take approximately 10 minutes of your time to complete this survey.

If you would like to take part in this survey, please click on this link to complete the survey: <a href="https://canterbury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_510JMKLXWQiafwq">https://canterbury.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_510JMKLXWQiafwq</a>

You will also find the Information Sheet and Consent Form at this link. This survey is voluntary, which means it is your choice whether or not to participate. The survey is completely anonymous.

Every person who responds to the survey will go into a draw to receive one of three \$100 Pak'N Save vouchers. This research is funded by the Ministry of Education.

Please call Gail Gillon or Brigid McNeill on +64 3 369 3491 if there are any questions.

# Year 4 Have a go Day

Last week our Year 4 students went to Rāwhiti Domain to have a taster of what Winter Sport could look like for them next year. Students had a go at Ki-o-rahi, netball, touch, football, Capture the Flag and the community gardens.









# **Icy Slicey Fundraiser**

\$2 per icy slicey for the students to eat at school on Friday 20th September. Money raised is for the junior bread programme. Forms and money to the office by Wednesday 18th September.

# Order your Icy Slicey Icy Slicey Day: Friday 20 September Order a YUMMY ice cream slice. Get your maney & order to the office by Wednesday 18th Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Studio: \_\_\_\_\_\_ How many slices: \_\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$2 each

# Children's University Campus Experience

Our Children's University students spent the day on campus last week experiencing life as a real university student! After starting the day in one of the main lecture theatres the students rotated around four different sessions: exploring patterns and Möbius strips in the Mathematics faculty, negotiating and trading fruit burst lollies at the School of Business, learning about volcanoes and different rocks in the geology department and trying some experiments in the chemistry laboratory.

