



#### TERM 3

18 Sept - Talent Quest X  
Factor Ruakaka

Every Tues - Food in  
Schools - Gold Coin  
Donation

#### TERM 4

17th October - Show  
Day

22– 24 October - Gifted  
Māori Wananga

27 October - Labour Day

**1st November  
GALA DAY**

#### Sponsor's Thank You:

Marsden Cove LTD

Bream Bay Motel

Pure Essence

Bream Bay  
Cottages

Full Noise  
Restoration

Wortelboer Motors

1 2 3 Plus Ruakaka

Rowsells Collision  
Repair Centre Ltd

#### TERM DATES 2014

Term 3 — 21st July - 26th  
September

Term 4 — 13th October -  
15 or 16 December

# RUAKAKA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**11th September 2014**

#### DEAR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS,

Spring is finally here after all the rain. It looks like it may last a few days so hopefully things will dry out. It is certainly a lot warmer.

#### GALA SPONSORSHIP

The sponsorship is beginning to roll in and lots of people are beginning to bring in bric-n-brac and other goodies. Keep them rolling in. Thank you so much. It is going to be another great Ruakaka School Gala.

A big thank you goes out to Marsden Cove LTD for their generous donation of \$1000.00 towards our Gala Day!!



#### Whakatauki (proverb) of the Week

**Kaua mā te waewae tūtuki, engari mā te  
ūpoko pakaru**

*Persevere with determination, don't be put off by  
small obstacles.*

*A Balanced Education in a supportive environment*

### WHY DO PEOPLE LIKE RUAKAKA SCHOOL?

It has been great to get some very positive feedback about why people like Ruakaka School. Recently we had a visitor come into our school and this is what he said:

*“ ..... well coming from a sustainability perspective I would say that what you are trying to do out there is outstanding amongst schools I have had contact with. And that seems to have been taken up by the students and whether or not they acknowledge it, just having things like gardens and chickens and worm farming around them normalises being connected with our environment and our kai. Also building them into adults who will be more likely to make everyday decisions which don't harm the environment/make positive choices which help the environment.”*

### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION TALENT DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Exploring Whangarei Harbour and its catchment was the focus of a Northland Regional Council workshop for gifted and talented students from One Tree Point, Ruakaka and Waipu schools which kicked off at One Tree Point School last week.

The years five and six students explored the harbour foreshore adjacent to the school and took part in a wide range of hands-on activities focussed on learning more about the harbour and its surrounding catchment.

They learned that all harbours are surrounded by their own catchment – the area of land containing all the rivers and streams that flow into the harbour. They also learned that what happens on the land affects the harbour.



One Tree Point student Jayde van Gelder found a huge “diamond” as her beachcombing treasure during the group’s harbour foreshore walk. This realistic looking egg shaped plastic diamond became the inspiration for Whangarei Harbour Diamonds! - the group’s name.

The Wednesday 3 September workshop was the first in a three-part series which aims to boost student action to take care of the harbour – and its catchment.

Susan Botting, Northland Regional Council Environmental Education Officer, who is running the workshop, said the students’ passion for the harbour and its catchment is an inspiration.

### THANK YOU

A huge thank you goes to Kerry Pram for his fabulous work creating a wall around our server area. This has made this area secure and safe.

### FOOD FOR LIFE

Please remember to send your child’s donation every Tuesday to the office. This programme is run entirely on donations and every little bit helps. Next week is the last week for Food for Life for this term. There will be none for the last week of term.

### **GALA DAY – SATURDAY 1ST OF NOVEMBER**

**MORE GALA UPDATES** – So far we have a few names on the Helpers Roster! It is on the wall opposite the office. Please come and put your name down where you can help out. Many hands make light work.

We are still looking for more sponsorship to help pay for the rides and goods for raffles and the auction. Do you know of anyone that can help us with this?

We are looking for artworks for the auction, paintings, flax weaving, glass wear etc. If you can help with this, please let us know. **The next meeting is at 6.00pm on Tuesday the 23 September—EVERYONE IS WELCOME.**

### **HELP NEEDED**

One of our School families has recently had twin boys and Mum is very unwell. If you would like to help this family, we are going to collect money and non perishable food items here at School. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

### **SCAVENGERS**

Thank you to Scavengers for paying for one term's worth of Riding for the Disabled for a child within our school. The experience has been amazing for this child. We are looking for another local business that may wish to sponsor this programme for Term 4. If you are able to do this please contact Jo Irvine at School.

### **NATIONAL STANDARDS DATA**

Although National Standards is just one part of assessing how our school is doing, we do have to do this and I am pleased to share with you the results from our children in 2012 and 2013. In 2012 our children performed well above other Decile 4 schools, Whangarei schools and New Zealand schools in Reading, Writing and Maths. In 2013 our results were very similar although they were slightly down in Writing to 2012. We have had a real focus on Writing this year so I am sure our results will be back up there or higher this year.

### **COMPUTERS IN HOMES**

Our school has been given the opportunity to be part of the Computers in Homes programme. This means that 8 of our school's families will be selected to receive a computer and internet connection for their home and a free training course. If you are interested in being involved and do not already have a computer at home, we invite you to register your name at the school office.

### **X-FACTOR RUAKAKA**

Date: 18 September Bream Bay College starting at 6:30pm for roughly 2 hours.

Plans for this are almost complete and the contestants have almost been finalised. By now, all children who are performing should have brought their music to school either on a USB stick or a CD. They should also have organised their costumes and be practising flat out! If you can help your child with this, that would be great. Programmes will be sent home on Monday. Every child in the school will be involved in this event as all classes will be performing something. For this reason, we expect every child to be there if at all possible.

### **SHOW DAY 17 OCTOBER**

SHOW DAY (17<sup>th</sup> October) & GALA DAY (1<sup>st</sup> November). With Show Day and Gala coming up, we are in desperate need of margarine containers, yogurt containers, meat trays, and ice-cream containers. Please send these along to the office. The last day for entries for Show Day is this Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> September - no late entries accepted.

Goats for Show Day - contact Marina Boniface on 432-1247 or txt on 021 114 8881. The goats are all white boys and cost \$50.00 each.

### **SMALL BIKE**

We are looking for a 12 - 16" wheel bike with training wheels (if possible), for a child here at school. If you have one to donate, please drop it into the school, thank you.



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Whangarei 0171

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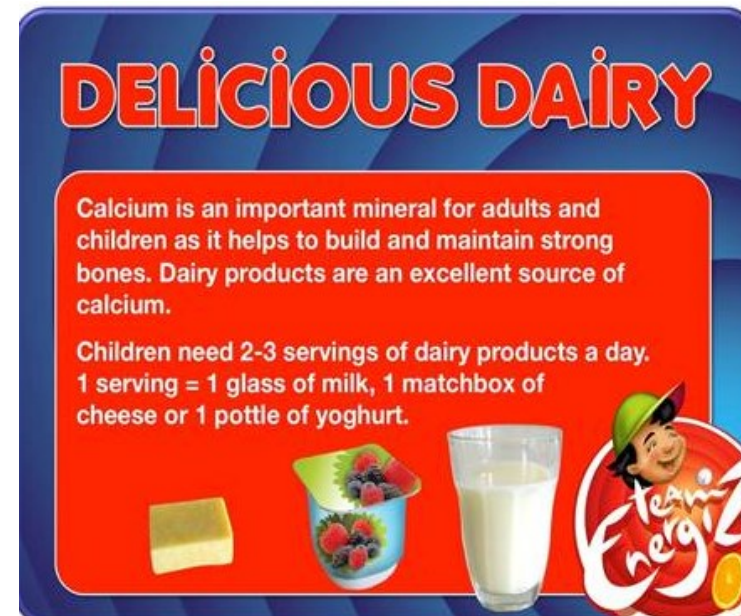
Web:  
**www.ruakaka.school.nz**

Find us on Facebook:  
Ruakaka Primary School Friends

**Website**  
**www.ruakaka.school.nz**

## Notices

### SPORT NORTHLAND



### SCHOOL NOTICES

#### GENERAL ELECTION – SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

Once again, we will be a polling booth for the elections. This is a huge election as far as education goes and so below I have included the links that I urge you to look at.

Labour	<a href="https://www.labour.org.nz/sites/default/files/issues/labours_education_policy.pdf">https://www.labour.org.nz/sites/default/files/issues/labours_education_policy.pdf</a>
National	<a href="https://www.national.org.nz/policies/education">https://www.national.org.nz/policies/education</a>
NZ First	<a href="http://nzfirst.org.nz/policy/education">http://nzfirst.org.nz/policy/education</a>
Greens	<a href="https://home.greens.org.nz/policy/summary/education">https://home.greens.org.nz/policy/summary/education</a>
Maori	<a href="http://maoriparty.org/policies/education/">http://maoriparty.org/policies/education/</a>
Mana Internet	<a href="http://mana.net.nz/2011/11/mana-%E2%80%93-education-policy-release-notes/">http://mana.net.nz/2011/11/mana-%E2%80%93-education-policy-release-notes/</a>
Act	<a href="http://www.act.org.nz/files/Education%20Policy.pdf">http://www.act.org.nz/files/Education%20Policy.pdf</a>
Conservative	Could not find any specific policy related to education.

**THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WE CAN RECOMMEND IS THAT YOU ARE ALL ENROLLED AND YOU ALL VOTE.**

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**MAIZE AND CROP SPRAYING** please call Shane and Angelina Beets - Call A Farmer Ltd 027 62 55 383.

**SKIDS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME** - We are looking at running a Term 3 Holiday Programme. Any interested parents can contact Esther text/call on 012 609 156 or alternatively you can call our Head Office on 0800 274 172 or check out our website and enrol online: [www.skids.co.nz](http://www.skids.co.nz)

#### WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ERO'S PARENT BOOKLETS?

The Education Review Office (ERO) publishes a series of five booklets for parents and caregivers. We want to find out how useful the information is to parents, how the booklets can be improved, and if parents would prefer to receive the information in a different way. We're starting with a survey of *How is my child doing?* To take part in the survey go to [www.ero.govt.nz](http://www.ero.govt.nz) – Featured Publications. The survey runs until the end of September and only takes a few minutes to complete. Meanwhile if you would like a copy of one of the booklets email [info@ero.govt.nz](mailto:info@ero.govt.nz)