



TERM 1

27th February - Parent Support Group meeting

5th March - School Swimming Sports

13th March - Interschool Swimming Sports

14th March - Bike Track Opening

24th March - Class and individual photos.

4 April - Whole School Trip to Waitangi

16th April - Youth Summit

TERM 2

Early June - Year 4-6 school camp.

TERM 4

17th October - Show Day

**Saturday
1st November
GALA DAY**

TERM DATES 2014

Term 1 — 3rd February - 17th April

Term 2 — 5 May - 4th July

Term 3 — 21st July - 26th September

Term 4 — 13th October - 15 or 16 December

RUAKAKA SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



27th February 2014



This is our beautiful new mural which was painted onto our climbing wall by one of our parents and well known international artist, Richard Robinson. This mural is dedicated to Fiona Gooder. Thank you so much Richard. It brightens our playground even on a gloomy day.



Whakatauki (proverb) of the Week

Ko te reo te tuakiri	<i>Language is my identity</i>
Ko te reo toku ahurei	<i>Language is my uniqueness</i>
Ko te reo te ora	<i>Language is life</i>

A Balanced Education in a supportive environment

JAME'S PROJECT UPDATE

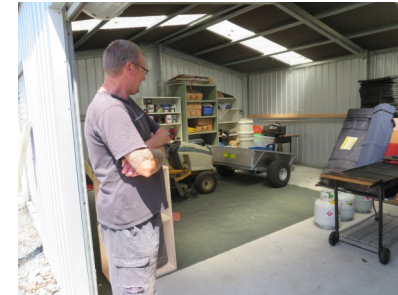
- ♦ Bikes in Schools – Wow! Have you seen the track? We will be having an official opening on the 14th of March at 9.00am which we would love you to come along to. Sheryl Mai, our local mayor, will be there along with other invited guests. All children have now been fitted with a helmet and the first load of bikes have arrived. The rest will be here very soon.
- ♦ Climbing wall – This has now been painted by Richard Robinson. Thank you so much Richard.
- ♦ Wireless connection - This is now up and running.
- ♦ Great news! We have just received another grant from the Oxford Sports Trust to purchase another 10 i-pads. These will arrive at the school over the next couple of days and will be used mainly in the junior classrooms to start with.



The first load of bikes have arrived.



Look at that shed now! Well done Dennis and James. We now have space for bikes.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION UPDATE



Unfortunately, the planned "Farm" camp for the senior school has had to be cancelled as the Farm was unable to provide enough staff to cater for our children. As a result of this, staff are hoping to get the senior school into the Christian camp at Mangawhai. This will be around the same dates as originally planned - early June. You will receive more information about this shortly. All other classes have outdoor education activities planned for some time in March and they will let you know about these as soon as plans and dates are finalised. All of these activities rely so much on parent support so we look forward to as many of you getting involved as possible.

WHOLE SCHOOL TRIP TO WAITANGI

The date for this has been confirmed. We will be taking all children to Waitangi on Friday 4th of April. More information will follow. We do know that each child will be asked to contribute \$10 towards this which will pay for some of the planned activities. We will apply for a grant to pay for the transport.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our first meeting for the year is Thursday 27th February at 2.45pm. TODAY!!! ALL WELCOME.

EASTER RAFFLE

This year we will be having an Easter raffle again which is always very popular - especially with the children! We would like all families to bring along some Easter goodies from now on so that we can make up the prizes. Raffle tickets will be sent home soon.

WHEELIE FRIDAYS

This is just a reminder that Fridays are still Wheelie Days and children can bring along anything with wheels that they can carry onto the bus - scooters, roller blades, skateboards etc. No bikes at this stage please. As soon as our new track has been opened, we will work out how we can incorporate the track safely into our Wheelie Fridays. We strongly encourage the children to bring along all safety gear that they have - helmets, knee pads etc.

RUAKAKA SCHOOL WEBSITE

We are busily updating our website and The Navigator at the moment. Please go on and have a look and make comments in the "Comments" section of the Navigator - it is under the tab 'Newspaper.' www.ruakaka.school.nz

FAMILY PICNIC

We had a great turn out at our family picnic this week and the weather was very kind. It was lovely to see so many of you here.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

As a follow-on to our brief information sharing at the family picnic, we plan to hold another Parent Information evening later this term. The date will be confirmed soon. If you have any particular things you would like us to share or discuss with parents on that night, please come in and see me and we will endeavour to do that.

WATCH THIS SPACE.

STATIONERY/SCHOOL DONATIONS

Almost all of the children now have stationery which is wonderful. If you still have not made arrangements for this to happen, we would really appreciate it if you could do this as soon as possible because it is very difficult for the children to start their year when they don't have the right gear. Thank you.

SWAP IT / GIVE IT CLOTHING

As part of our family picnic night, we thought it would be a great opportunity for families to bring along any children's clothing that was in good condition either donate it to other families or swap.

Thank you to those who brought things along - this was one part of the evening that didn't really happen so if you still have those clothes, we would be happy to store them for the Gala.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUFF



The Enviro-group have started up again and worked really hard last week to clear all of our vegie gardens ready for replanting.

They harvested lots of potatoes which we are going to make into frittatas this week for all the children to try.

If you have spare time, we would love to help our group.

You can talk to Jennifer Hay about ways you can be involved.

THE BIKE TRACK IS FINISHED, THE HELMETS ARE FITTED



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Notices

School Information

Arrival at School

Just a reminder that children are not to be dropped off before 8:10 in the morning as there is no one available to supervise them at this time of day.

School Lunches

There has been an unexpected change this year in regards to school lunches, our supplier is no longer supplying. We have sourced a new supplier but they are unable to provide some of our food. So until further notice there will be no popcorn, chips, and drinks.

School buses

If you need to change your children from a bus line to a pick up line or Afterschool care please let the office know before 2:00pm

Scholastic book

If you are ordering scholastic books they need to be paid by visa, or cheque made out to Scholastic New Zealand. PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH. Also you have a week to return your orders back to the office.

Community notices

Takahiwai Schoolboys Rugby League Rally Day
9th March at 10am at Takahiwai Rugby League Club
Grades 7s, 9s, 11s, 13s 15s and 18s.
Coaching and referee training provided for all ages
Their AGM will be held on 5th March at 6pm
Please go along and take all your ideas and suggestions.
All welcome contact Ari on 0212066090 or Deon 0212538169

1st Ruakaka Scout Division
The Ruakaka scout club are looking for scout leaders to support our local youth to enjoy the scouting experience. Training is given
Please call Warren Bunn 4327483

Drama Classes Ruakaka
If you are interested in drama classes for your children please contact Helen on 021 172 3568
Or info@makingascene.co.nz