



#### TERM 2

2nd June - Queen's Birthday

4-6 June - Year 4-6 school camp.

23-27 June - Book Week

27 June Dress Up as Book Character Day

Wintersports - Date to be confirmed

3 July - Portfolios Home

#### TERM 3

18 Sept - Talent Quest

#### 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



**29th May 2014**

## Dear Parents / Caregivers

Welcome back to the first of our winter terms. I think we have been very lucky with the weather so far – it has been very warm and dry. The children have managed to get outside every day so far and the bike track is being used all day which is wonderful.

## ANZAC DAY

Recently Room 3 were fortunate to have a special visitor come into their classroom to show them his war medals. Cecil Poa, David's grandfather, proudly showed the children his medals and explained to them what he was awarded them for. The children were very interested in finding out more about ANZAC Day.



## Whakatauki (proverb) of the Week

**Matariki atua ka eke mai i te rangi e roa.**

**Whāngaia iho ki te mata o te tau roa.**

*Divine Matariki come forth from the far-off heaven.*

*Nourish those below with the first fruits of the year.*

*A Balanced Education in a supportive environment*

### JAMES' PROJECT UPDATE

**James' helper** - A huge thank you Dennis McCullough (one of our granddads), for the work he has been doing around the school recently – I'm sure James has really appreciated it as much as we have. He has welded our soccer goals back together on the back field and also is in the process of putting a set of doors onto our container so that the bikes can come in one end of it and go out the other end. Thank you so much Dennis.

**The Sanctuary** – James' next project is to take out one of the walls in the dental clinic so that we can convert this into our Sanctuary rather than use Room 1. Once the walls have been relined, we will put in new carpet and it will be a wonderful calming area for children and staff when needed.

**New Laptops** – Thanks to the application that James put into the Oxford Sports Trust, we were able to purchase 10 new laptops to go into classrooms. They are just being set up to work off our network and they will be ready to go. We really appreciate the support we have had from the Oxford Sports Trust as there are just so many things we would not have been able to buy if it hadn't been for their support.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES VACANCY

Our current Board of Trustees treasurer, Adrienne Carswell is leaving the Board and so we are looking to co-opt someone onto the Board of Trustees to take her place - preferably with an accounting/financial background. If you are interested in this position, please contact James McCullough on 021395106. Being a member of the Board is a very rewarding job and is a great way of getting involved with your children's education.

### BIKE TRACK UPDATE

Stu Bell has been in on several days already this term to work with the senior classes. He is teaching them bike safety and also some basic bike maintenance. The children's skills are improving all the time. We have well over 40 bikes now which is wonderful. Some of the children who couldn't ride a bike before we got the track in, have persevered and persevered and can now ride without trainer wheels.

### SENIOR CAMP

Thank you so much to all of you who have paid for your children to go to camp. There is so much planning that goes into an event like this and for a while we were worried that not enough children would be able to go, but thanks to all of you wonderful parents, most children will be attending. The teachers have a very exciting programme planned and so now all we need is fine weather.

### CAMP HELPERS MEETING

Just a reminder that there is a camp helpers meeting this Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of May (tonight), at 6pm.

### MORE THANK YOUS

A special thank you goes out to all of the wonderful parents and grandparents who help us out in so many ways around the school.

I would especially like to mention Dianne Barrowman and Erma Carr this week as they have spent hours recently making Te Reo resources and shelving books plus numerous other tasks. Without support from people like this, these things just don't get done.

### NASTY BUGS

This is the time of the year when there are many nasty bugs around. At the moment we have cases of Hand, Foot and Mouth disease going around, also a bug that presents with headaches and a sore tummy, and head-lice and still prevalent in some rooms. There are also many children with chesty coughs. If your child is unwell in the morning, or if they have vomited within the last 24 hours, please keep them home. Some of these illnesses are extremely contagious.



### TE REO IN CLASS

Mr Paul Mephram is our Te Reo teacher. Each week, Mr Mephram spends half an hour in each class teaching karakia (prayer), mihi mihi (formal speech), waiata (songs) alongside Maori tikanga (protocols) and Maori language.. Here children are using rakau / cuisenaire rods to learn Maori words and phrases.



### MATHEX



On the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2014, children took part in Mathex. We had two teams, Ruakaka 1 and Ruakaka 2. Ruakaka 1 finished with 45 points and Ruakaka 2 finished with 35 points. The overall winners scored 65 points. Those that took part in Mathex were Layton Carrington, Jessica Carswell, Ella Johns, Teneille Hiki, Catherine Hang, Ben Litchfield, Mya Davison and Luca Matenga. Well done everyone.

### JUMP JAM

On the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2014, 20 year 5 and 6 students attended a Jump Jam Seminar to learn how to teach Jump Jam to all children at Ruakaka School. It was a fantastic event and students learnt many important techniques and strategies needed to teach Jump Jam.



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## Notices

### READING TOGETHER

By now children from Rooms 2, 9, 8, 7 and 6 will have brought home a notice about the Reading Together Programme that Mrs Peni is co-ordinating. This is a 4 week programme for helping parents to assist their children to be great readers. This programme will start on Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at 1pm. The first 15 parents to enrol will be in the first series.

### SCHOOL LUNCHES

We are seeing an increasing amount of children bringing dry packet noodles for lunch. These aren't good for children's stomachs and we ask if your child is going to have packet noodles for lunch that they make them at home and bring them in a container. Thank you for your help in this matter.

### SICK BAY

We require clean single sheets for the sick bay. If you have any that you can donate to the school, please send them along to the office.

### SCHOOL GALA

**1 November 2014.**

If you can help way, please contact James or Marilyn, this is a huge day for us and many hands make light work.

### THE FUTURE OF NEW ZEALAND EDUCATION – “INVESTING IN EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS (IES)”

Many of you will have heard about the \$365,000,000 that the government are going to put into Education over the next 3 years. This is a very controversial policy and one which is strongly opposed by educational leaders and teachers. Below is a link that you may be interested in that will give you more information about what this policy will mean for schools. It is one of the most controversial policies to be put forward by the government since Tomorrow's Schools. I would be interested in your feedback in regard to this policy.  
<http://www.standupforkids.org.nz/better-plan/>

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

#### Kids Market!

The Great NZ Garage Sale. Sunday 1 June 9 – 12 Forum North.  
Turn your unwanted books, dvds, toys and anything else into CASH!  
(excluding food). Stalls from \$5.  
Email: [kathryn@thegreatnzgaragesale.co.nz](mailto:kathryn@thegreatnzgaragesale.co.nz) or txt: 021 065 4598

### Piano, Keyboard and Guitar Lessons

These are available on Monday or Friday's, here at the school, please phone Mrs Moon on 432 0804.

### Help your child to learn

Is your child struggling to learn? Free workshop facilitated by experienced tutor. 3 sessions held between 9—23 June (6pm - 8pm) Registration essential, email [cew@kamohigh.school.nz](mailto:cew@kamohigh.school.nz) or phone 435 0889. For my information <http://www.cew.ac.nz/HelpChildLearn.html>

### Drama classes

Please visit our website for details <http://makingascene.co.nz/familiarity>