

Newsletter March 3 2015

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the month of March. We look forward to seeing as many of you who can make it to Assembly on Friday at noon. It is also mufti day on Friday to support the Rakaia Stair Climb team from the Fire Service who are raising funds for Leukaemia and Blood foundation. The children have been asked to wear their house colours of Blue, Yellow, Red and Green.

Our County swimmers compete on Tuesday at the community pool in Ashburton and Emma Kelly will be there as part of the judging or marshaling committee. The children have a list of their events and if you need more information then please contact the office or Miss Kelly.

Rippa Rugby also begins Tuesday evening at the Ashburton Showgrounds and the three teams have had their shirts issued to them and we will run them through a practice before their games. This is for Years 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8. The minivan will leave school at 5.30pm if you need a ride. It will cost \$2 and bookings are made at the office. Once full we can take no more.

Inspiring Minds - Principal's Comment

I read a very interesting article in the weekend in our "Teachers Matter" magazine. It talked about parents needing to have "Intelligent Neglect" to help raise a resilient child. It is centred around 5 core values:

1. **Emphasising the collective over the individual** – this says that a child is part of a family not the centre. Some of us are guilty of asking children what they think about important issues in the family and then making decisions to suit them and not the entire family. Children may get upset but they are being prepared for an adult world where you do not get everything your own way.
2. **The Value of saying No** – children need to realize saying no and being told no are part of every day living. We are parents to our children not their best friends.
3. **The importance of experiencing life's full spectrum of emotions** – to realize life's full experience children need to experience and have an understanding of Boredom, Risk/danger and also Disappointment.
4. **Character development rather than confidence** – self esteem plays a large part in people's lives however resilience comes from life's lessons and sometimes we have to fail no matter how hard it is to watch. We need to realize we must celebrate not just who our children are but what they do.

5. **An eagerness to encourage but a reluctance to rescue** – the best things we can give our children are the opportunities to be the best they can be. Encouragement, support and coaching and resisting the urge to rescue our children from circumstances and consequences.

I really enjoyed reading this article and I am happy to copy it for you. It highlighted some better ways I can help my own children and also the children I care for at Rakaia School. I just wanted to share it with you and welcome reflections at any time.

Notices:

Room 7 are looking for any old rope to help them build a rope course. It would need to be heavy duty and several metres in length. If you have any please contact Mrs Jenkins on Natasha@rakaia.school.nz

We have the forms for Mt Hutt ski passes in the office. It entitles children 10years and below to have free lift passes for the 2015 season. Year 7-8 student passes are \$100 for the season. If you would like a form then please contact the school office. They are due in by May 1st.

Softball draw for this week. Please remember that if you registered for T-ball and Softball we expect you to turn up to games. Both T-Ball teams had only 2 players on Saturday and had to default. We are letting the school down and the team down. Only two more games to go and the season is finished so maybe if your child is interested then they may want to have a go in the next few week. Please help us end the season on a positive note like the softball teams who are thriving in the competition and loving it.

T Ball 9:00- T2 Allenton Strikers v BNZ Rakaia Rangers,

Little League U11 9:00- D2 Elite Panthers v Pearsons Rakaia Red Sox,

T Ball 10:15- T2 Borough Black v JFM Rakaia Royals.

Little League U13 10:15-D3 Rookie Panthers v Resolve Tax Rakaia Ravens, D4 Rakaia Bridgestone Battlers v ADSC Tigers,