

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week 4 of term 3. It is flying by and we have a busy few weeks ahead with the Mahitahi team swimming at the Ashburton Community pool for the next two weeks and so they have an adjusted timetable with the bus leaving school before midday and getting back close to 2.15pm. Please ensure your children, in this room, have their togs every day. If they are unwell and cannot swim then we expect a note of explanation and they will join the group on the bus and complete set work.

Unfortunately the School Support event on Saturday with our very own Grant Lorimer was postponed and will be held again soon with more information to follow. The Motorcycle club will also keep in touch with us about their event so we can still support it and, in turn, support our children.

The School Support Group do have their movie event and tickets are available for you to purchase for \$20. Please tell your friends and family. It looks like a great movie.

Cleaner required - Lainey, our newest cleaner has shifted away from Rakaia and we are therefore looking for a new cleaner to take her position in a fixed term role until the end of the year.

If this is something you think you would like to do then please give Mark a call at school or on his cell 0273477982.

There is a Junior School Assembly this Friday August 19 at 2.30pm and we invite you to attend. Please tell the family so they can put it in their diary.

MOVIE NIGHT
Rakaia School Support Fundrasier
Monday 5 September 7.30pm
Regent Cinema - Ashburton
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKCw-kqo3cs&sns=em>

Spot Prizes
Tickets \$20 each
available from Rakaia School Office
School Support contacts: Jody 021 153 5589
or Rachel 0275 303 503
Support Our School
Come and enjoy an evening out





We would also like to congratulate the year 7-8 Hockey team who took part in the Ashburton County Sports and won their event. They will represent Mid Canterbury in Christchurch on Thursday August 25th and we all wish them the best for this opportunity.

Principal's Comment:

Last week I attended a leadership day in Christchurch and a woman spoke to us about leadership in her world that involved youth prisons and the challenges of the UK system and her time in NZ. it was a wonderful opportunity to hear her ideas and words of wisdom.

One of the things that grabbed my attention and interest is the investment she believes we need to give to children and students. She spoke of "Emotional Intelligence" which is the ability to empathise and be aware of your own and others emotions to increase communication and relationship skills. It was written about by Daniel Goleman and at Rakaia we would probably centre this work around our values of Partnership, Quality and Respect.

To further understand our work in this area we are working towards meetings at Mt Hutt College and Ashburton College to connect again with our Rakaia School students to see what we could have done better for them all and what their transition to their new schools has been like. I will be asking them about our curriculum and our values and hoping they can share with us ideas and feedback to help Rakaia School continue its aim to be Inspirational.

My suggestion to all families is to make time to share ideas and conversation about each other's dreams and achievements. Have a meal together and turn off the technology so you can teach your children the values your parents taught you. Talk about your family values and what you expect your children to do in certain situations they may face at school, in their sports clubs and in their world.

Understanding others is not always easy unless you have walked in their shoes but encouraging our children to consider others and their feelings can only improve our community and school so I urge you to have some conversations at home.

Thank you, Mark Ellis.

A huge thank you to Charlie Marshall's parents for their work in the weekend to make and put up the new Rugby posts at school. I am sure the students will love them.

Thank you to those who entered the 'Family Maths Competition' last week. Congratulations to the Pongia family, who have won the family pass to The Regent Cinema in Ashburton. Sally Brown has an equal number of brothers and sisters. Mark Brown, her older brother, has twice as many sisters as brothers. How many children are there in the Brown family?

The answer was 7 children; 3 boys and 4 girls.

