

Newsletter Tuesday October 11 2016

Kia Ora Parents, Caregivers and community

Welcome to term 4 2016. It will be a very busy term with swimming tuition and School athletics as well as School trips and Camps and the end of year Prize Giving and Picnic. Please check out the school website for the calendar of events and join the School facebook page and School app. These communication tools help us keep in touch and up to date with events for the School and School Support Group. We do our very best to keep you all up to date and do appreciate feedback if you feel we have missed anything.



Term 4 is sunhat term and all of the children are required to have a sunsafe hat with a brim. A cap is not suitable and so if children are without hats then they will be asked to play in the shade. Please ensure the hats are named.

Please also check your children's bags for notices that the class teacher may have put out. These have valuable information about each room and keep you informed as well.

We certainly encourage you to continue the support of your children work at home with Reading, Spelling and Maths Bricks. As your child's first teachers we just ask that you support the progress and achievement of your children by encouraging routines and giving the children the best gift in the world which of course is your time. We would also encourage the use

of outdoor time as daylight saving gives us ample daylight to maybe have a game of tennis, read outside, do some gardening as a family or a bike ride to develop those family traditions they will remember.

Congratulations to Flynn Ford for getting his speech in the NZ harness magazine. Flynn is famous and it's wonderful to see the pride he is showing after being published in this magazine.

The students in Mahi Tahi have been working very hard with their writing and blogging and now Lockie Atkinson has been followed as well with some of his blogging influencing other schools and their art work after sharing the "tin foil" sculptures in term 3.

Well done team! It's tremendous to see your work being read widely in the community.



Room 2 are seeking cardboard boxes of any shape and size for their developmental programme and ask that you deliver them to Room 2 if you can help.

Curriculum review:

Currently the staff are re-evaluating the School curriculum to fit what we feel our learners require and some of the statements below are in our document.

Please read and comment by e-mail to me if you have anything to add or take away from our work so far. You can e-mail me on markellis@rakaia.school.nz quoting the letters or numbers below.

- A. Our focus is on creating an environment where students are happy, motivated and actively engaged in learning with staff who challenge them and grow their potential.*
- B. We want our students to be confident, literate and numerate problem solvers who communicate ideas showing leadership and Respect.*
- C. We aim to have Inspirational students who love learning and celebrate their successes and the successes of others.*

We aim for our leavers and learners to be:

- 1. Confident Leaders
- 2. Numerate and Literate-including digitally
- 3. Respectful
- 4. Open Minded Problem Solvers
- 5. Creative
- 6. Collaborative

What we believe about learning?

- 7. We believe we motivate and inspire our students to build a love of learning. Modelling positive attitudes, risk taking and encouraging children to work with others and to embrace diversity.
- 8. We believe that knowing your learners and creating experiences that are enjoyable help students pursue their passions and have agency in the learning.
- 9. We believe the best teachers teach from the heart and go with those special moments encouraging children to be proud learners who are reflective and happy.
- 10. We believe our students require a values based curriculum with emotional intelligence and empathy to contribute positively in their community.

