#### Newsletter October 18 2016

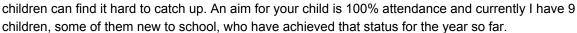
## Kia Ora Koutou

Welcome to week 2 of the term. I hope the weather is starting to take a better turn for us all and the children can enjoy the weather with their hats on.

### School attendance

Last week I sent home quite a few letters detailing children's attendance that was lower than 85%. It is my job to inform parents if their children may be at risk of not achieving due to barriers and lack of attendance is one of those barriers. If a child maintains 80% then over 8 years at school they only get the equivalent of just over 6 years education in that time. While most absences ae for very good reasons it is important you know if indicators are popping up that may restrict learning for your child.

By law we must keep track of attendance and ensure we have a plan to ensure children are at school. Part of our plan is the letters and also my visits to your home if percentages are low. Absences add up quickly and



I would encourage you all to keep children away when they are genuinely sick and infectious, like the conjunctivitis that is around at the moment but otherwise children need to be here so they can learn and mingle with their peers to learn how to communicate effectively and do their very best to achieve positive results.





**Full School Assembly** - we have a Full School Assembly this Friday October 21st to celebrate the successes of the children and welcome new children to school. Please look at your diaries to see if you can attend. We will start at 2.15pm in Mahi Tahi, the new senior classroom block.

**Year 5-6 Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser** - We will hold a sausage sizzle this Friday at school. Normal prices \$2 and \$1.50 Gluten free without bread. The money raised will support the Year 5-6 camp which happens in week 4. There will also be some baking available at \$1-\$2 a piece.

**Labour Weekend** - This weekend is Labour weekend and so there will be no school on Monday. It is a public holiday.

"During the 19th century, workers in New Zealand tried to claim the right for an 8-hour working day. In 1840 carpenter Samuel Parnell fought for this right in Wellington, NZ, and won. Labour Day was first celebrated in New Zealand on October 28, 1890, when thousands of workers paraded in the main city centres. Government employees were given the day off to attend the parades and many businesses closed for at least part of the day.

The first official Labour Day public holiday in New Zealand was celebrated on the second Wednesday in October in 1900. The holiday was moved to the fourth Monday of October in 1910 has remained on this date since then."

# Rakaia / Dorie School Athletics 2016

The 2016 Athletics Day will be held at Rakaia on Wednesday 26th of October.

- Events will commence at 9:00am sharp, therefore we ask for children to be lined up in their ages groups at 8:45am.
- We need parents to be marshals on the day. Their responsibility is to assist with finding events for age groups. Please contact Miss Kelly if you are able to help.
- Lunch will be approximately 12:30pm. School support will be providing a sausage sizzle, bacon sandwiches, drinks and ice blocks.
- A timetable will be displayed around the school on the day.

## **Community Notices:**

As you may be aware Rakaia Pony Club will be hosting Springston Trophy next year in October 5-8th. We will be on the look for anybody who can provide accommodation for teams and horses for the duration. Could you please circulate amongst your student families and get them to contact me if they can offer then we will be able to put this all together as options. If you could let me know what exactly you can offer - i.e. wool shed with a toilet that could house 6 and yards for 6 horses or truck/float parking only and a 4 acre paddock etc.

Thank you so much Su Bowden

## **New Notices on School Notice Board:**

- Ashburton Touch Rugby
- GP- care around the clock
- Thursday 3rd November Geraldine Summer Fete