

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the beginning of week 4. The students are settling well and the staff have been conducting some assessments to better understand their needs and plan for next steps. We have a clear focus for the staff to better understand their learners and to personalise their learning within our modern learning environments.

The roll is currently 193 with a clear view to reach over 200 pupils again this year. Team Ako will have some pupils shift from Room 1 to Room 2 in the middle of the year. We may also consider some shifts from Room 2 to Room 3 but all parents will be advised if this occurs.

This Friday will be an Ako Team assembly just after 9am and we invite you to attend to celebrate with the junior team.



We have Goal Setting Interviews booked for Tuesday February 28th and Wednesday March 1st. These 10 minute interviews give you a chance to set goals for the next two terms that relate to academic or social

needs and to have individual time with your child's teacher .

Please follow the instructions on your computer and if you want us to book the event then please chat with us in the office.

Now bookings are open, you need to tell parents about them - either by email or in the school newsletter. You need to include two things:

1. The website address **www.schoolinterviews.co.nz**
2. The event code **6naw3**

Hot food - we offer the pie warmers for heating hot food Tuesday Mahi Tahi Team , Wednesday Whanau Team (Rooms 7and 8) and Thursday Ako Team (Rooms 1,2 and 3). Food needs to be named and in tin foil. We do not heat noodles as these can be dangerous and discourage thermos flasks for the same reasons. If your children have dietary issues then please advise the staff so we can accommodate as best we can.

Bikes and trikes - Students are invited to have their scooters and drifts trikes at school but helmets must be worn. The far tennis court is available for this. Bikes and scooters must be walked into school and out of school to minimise any accidents. Students who bring their bikes will have an opportunity to ride them at the top end of the school with year 8 supervision as well as staff on duty. This will occur most Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please note we cannot be responsible for any damage done to bikes, trikes and scooters. We encourage safety and support sharing, if permission is given, but accidents do occur and wheels

get bumped and scooters get driven into. We are trying to provide places for all the students to play a variety of games.

Huts - the same vain we let the students play in the huts. They seem to enjoy games where they use sticks and pinecones as currency. Issues arise but provide good opportunities for negotiation skills and problem solving. The duty teacher who looks after the grass will do a sweep around the huts to support any worries or concerns. The children also climb the trees but are encouraged to go no higher than their own height.

Clothing - Please ensure all school clothing is named. We have already had items go missing and these are not cheap for families. Please check your children's sweatshirts to ensure they have the right ones. We have one family with named items that have lost two sweatshirts and they would like them back.

EA Network Centre Duathlon/Triathlon 2017

We are super excited to be able to bring this event to all children in Ashburton District aged between 5-13yrs old on the 12th March.

If you would like to enter the Duathlon/Triathlon please see your school for a registration form or pop into the EA Networks Centre.

Once you have filled in the form you will need to bring it into the EANC to enter and pay. For our first year we have limited the numbers to 200 (50 per age group)

Please see the poster around your school for more information or check out the EA Network Centre – Gym Facebook page for more information.

Any questions please contact Anna Johnson – 03 307 7870

Rakaia School Gardening Club - raising funds for the Village Green. There will be a street stall at the St Andrew's Presbyterian Church by the 2 big trees.

Cabbage trees and flaxes for sale. Good healthy plants donated by Millwood Nursery. We also welcome any other donations of plants and produce. If wet then in the Church Foyer

Please contact Gretchen 0274171179 or Dorothy 3027595

