Kia Ora Koutou

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week 8 of the term. The weather has been very unkind to the Rippa Rugby students and they have not had a game at all yet. We cross our fingers that everything is fine for next Tuesday night. We also wish our Softball players luck for their last games this weekend.

I wanted to share with you the six themes we have chosen to focus on for our curriculum over the next three years. We thought about these long and hard so our children get exposed to different concepts and contexts during their inquiries. For many of us you will see clear links to Science, Social Studies and Health in these topics and that is a purposeful choice to help prepare the students heading to High School.

- Energy: Identify energy sources and their impacts.
- Culture and Community: exploration of cultures and communities within the school, Rakaia and the world.
- **Innovation and Discovery:** the creation and design of a new or existing method, idea or product through inquiry.
- Change: the act or process through which something becomes different.
- Relationships: developing skills that the students can use when relating to others in a variety of situations.
- **Communication**: developing skills that will enable students to communicate confidently using a range of tools.

The teachers will be adapting these topics to suit their learners and and also to challenge their thinking so they begin to work towards our Graduate profile of what our learners can be.

- Confident Leaders
- Numerate and Literate-including digitally
- Respectful
- Open Minded Problem Solvers
- Creative
- Collaborative
- Communicators



The child, the heart of the matter!

- 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.
- We want our students to be confident, literate and numerate problem solvers who communicate ideas showing leadership and Respect.
- We aim to have Inspirational students who love learning and celebrate their successes and the successes of others.

You can see from the work behind the scenes that the staff and BOT are committed to doing the best for your children.

At any stage that you feel we are not meeting your needs or your child's needs then we encourage you to see us so we can remedy any worries or concerns. Your first approach is always your child's homeroom teacher then the leader of that team and then the Principal if required.

Other updates:

- Mufti Day March 30 Gold Coin donation for the Blood and Leukaemia Foundation. This is going to the Rakaia Fire Brigade stair climbers.
- Junior Ako Team assembly this Friday at 9.10 am just after the roll has been taken. You are invited to attend to share in the learning and successes of the Junior school.
- Thank you very much to the School Support
 Group for their ongoing support of the school. I
 attended the AGM last night and they raised a
 large amount of money last year with
 community support and grants and donated
 \$13200 to the school last year to support
 Reading, a TV and stand for Mahi Tahi, Pool
 Pump, Pet Day and Soccer Nets as well as
 wish lists for the staff.
- The School Pool will be closed this weekend for the season. Pool keys need to be returned to the office please.

