

August 7th 2017 - Kia Ora Koutou

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Week three begins with a sense of Spring in the air. It seems to be getting lighter in the evenings and the days are clear and our students are bouncing in with enthusiasm and positive attitudes.



Congratulations to the Crusaders who showed character in the weekend to win the Rugby Championship. They didn't worry about the Altitude they concentrated on Attitude. This is what we try to teach the children and it was the message that NED shared with the children last week. We had a great visit and the Yoyo sales have gone through the roof here at Rakaia as well as Methven and Tinwald where other performances were held.

Amazing work by the Year 7-8 Soccer team winning the Mid Canterbury tournament and gaining entry to the Canterbury Competition on August 25th. We are very proud of you all and wish you the best in the next round.



The School also sends its congratulations to Emma Bonnington and her husband Logan who are expecting their first child in January 2018. Emma shared the wonderful news with us and we are thrilled for her. Emma will be applying for parental leave for the 2018 year and we will fill her position with a fixed term teacher and will start appointments as soon as paperwork is confirmed.

We also send our condolences to the Hislop family and extended family for the the passing of Pearl Hislop who was a Nana, Great Nana and Aunty of staff and pupils here at school. Pearl has connections with at least 5 of our current families and she opened and cut the ribbon for the new office block back in 2008. We have had 5 generations of her family at school. Best wishes and memories for ever, from all of us at Rakaia School.

Thank you to all who made interviews for the Year 4-8 students. You would have received your children's midyear reports at these interviews and so we would encourage all other families who have not made appointments yet to call or e-mail school to organise a time to suit you and the staff. Our return rates were 33% - 66% of parents attending meetings and so we still have a lot of you out there who are due to meet the teacher with your child and look at their progress.

I cannot reiterate enough how important it is to take an active part in your child's education because it sends the right messages to them about how hard they work and the rewards it can bring. Attending interviews and checking on the progress of your child is an important part of being active and while we appreciate work commitments and care arrangements may need changing to meet these obligations we encourage you strongly to make that appointment now.

Websites to support you when you meet with staff

<https://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/learning-and-development-at-home/parent-teacher-meetings/>

<http://www.ero.govt.nz/publications/category/guides-for-parents>

Monday, 7 August
1:50pm Rakaia School visit from Kal
Wednesday, 9 August
SSG Soup - Ako
Thursday, 10 August
Manual for Year 7-8
SSG Soup - Whanau
Friday, 11 August
Crazy hair and Clothes Day - KidsCan Fi
SSG Soup - Mahitahi
Team Whanau assembly 9am in Room 8
Monday, 14 August
School photos - Photolife Photography
12:00pm Mahi Tahi Swimming EA Ne
Tuesday, 15 August
Mahi Tahi Swimming EA Network
Wednesday, 16 August
Mahi Tahi Swimming EA Network
Thursday, 17 August
Mahi Tahi Swimming EA Network
Friday, 18 August

+ Google Calendar



Calendar from School Website:

School Support Group Reminders:

- The next SSG meeting will be held Friday August 11 at 1.45pm in Room 4. All welcome to attend.
- Vege Soup is now Week 3, Dates: Wed 9th = Ako, Thurs 10th = Whanau, Fri 11th = Mahi Tahi. Please check in with Lara Reihana if you can help on any of those days.
- Secretary - is anyone interested in taking on the Secretary position for SSG please come along to the meeting on Friday August 11 or contact Lara at school. Thank you.