

November 21 2017

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week six of the term. The year is almost done and dusted and the staff are working hard to get assessments finished for school reports to the report to the BOT.

Teachers are also finalising class lists for 2018 so you know who your child's homeroom teacher will be. These will be posted up in the school in the last week of the school.

Accounts have been sent out to gather money owing to the school. We are seeking almost \$10000 in debts and ask that this is dealt with quickly so we can finalise accounts before Christmas. Thank you to those who have actioned things immediately and to those managing payment plans to address these debts in a timely manner. We remind you that we have eftpos in the school office now to make payment a little easier.

I remind all parents that this Thursday evening we have John Parsons at school to talk Internet safety. This is being funded by the school in partnership with the School Support group who have donated \$500 towards the evening. It is free for you to attend and will start at 6.30pm in Mahitahi. We urge you to attend with a friend or family member.

**John Parsons** - Internet Safety presentation for parents, students and staff.

The BOT have invited John Parsons to school on **November 23rd** to support our aim to have our students safely using the internet and for staff and parents to understand the challenges and have some ideas given to them to support this aim. John presents right throughout NZ and we have provided some more information with this newsletter. The evening will be held in Mahi Tahi at 6.30pm and will be at no cost for our community. We hope this will be well supported and urge you to book this evening for a babysitter and join the presentation.



<http://www.simulate2educate.co.nz/?q=john-parsons>

Last week we held the Health and Consultation evening in Mahitahi at 6.30pm on Wednesday and only 2 people turned up. This was a shame with some important details discussed for Sexuality Education as well as normal Health Curriculum questions. We have had 15 replies with all supportive of the current Health approach at Rakaia School. Thank you very much to those who replied.



Congratulations to Peter Harrison, Gabi Costello and Teri Doig on their nominations for the two BOT positions available for election. This confirms an election will be held and the candidates have sent in their blurbs for the upcoming vote. Good luck!

## **Sports Tops**

Please can we have all the sports tops returned to the office so we can do a stock take on them ready for next year.

## **Upcoming events to note**

- Life Education will be visiting November 15, 20 and 21. This a Health based programme
- November 22 - House competition day. All children to come in their House Colours for a tabloid event.
- November 23 - we will have John Parsons with us and an invite is extended to all parents to attend an evening presentation at 6.30pm about keeping our children safe on the internet.
- November 24th is open day at Ashburton College. Our Year 8 pupils will be attending.
- December 11 - Mrs Doody morning tea and presentation. This starts at 10.30am with morning tea at 11am.
- December 13 - School Picnic - Family BBQ and picnic at school with some pool time and games for all. Lunch at 12 noon. Games at 12.45 with pool time from 1.30pm
- December 14 prize Giving at 1pm
- December 15 is the last day of school for 2017 with school shutting at 12 noon.

## **School support group updates:**

1. SSG Meeting this Tuesday 21 November 7pm at South Rakaia Hotel, all welcome.
2. Mascara orders in by this Wednesday 22 November please.
3. Disco this Friday - volunteers needed to run the disco, please contact Michelle Jones 027 346 3325 with your offer to help.
4. Christmas Raffle - thank you for selling raffle tickets and donating items towards Christmas raffle hampers for prizes. Please keep up the good work.