

July 3 2018

Rakaia School Newsletter

Wow! It is the end of term already. I am sure the children are looking forward to a break. The bugs have been biting and we have had a little illness amongst staff and pupils so a restful holiday break is prescribed. School starts again on July 23rd for term 3.

Last night at Ashburton College they presented to the community their planned changes for year 9 and 10 curriculum. We have been offered an opportunity for our own presentation at school on Tuesday July 24th at 7pm. The Year 7-8 children are invited to attend with the parents and we have extended the invitation to Dorie School as well. This is a chance to hear, first-hand, what they are planning and how your children can opt in to the changes. A senior staff member from the College will present and answer questions. Please note this on your diary.



Rakaia School Curriculum :

We are having some small changes made to our curriculum as well. We have started to break down the survey comments you all had a chance to comment on and we are exploring different opportunities with our Curriculum DNA. We have begun to look at the “International Primary Curriculum (IPC) and The International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC)” These resources come to us from England and are packaged as a global curriculum available in over 500 Regional Schools in the Asia Pacific region and over 90 countries in the world.

The staff will be trialling some units of work with our students to map against the NZ curriculum. We are partnering with Cognition Education NZ and Fieldworks UK to be the first school in NZ to trial the units in a pilot programme.

We will own the pace of change and direct the partners with our Rakaia School context so our staff and students can comment and give feedback on the new resources, knowledge and skills they will be exposed to.

It is exciting to take part in some of these new developments especially while the NZ education system is being reviewed by the new Minister and his team.

Thank you very much to the parents who attended the full assembly last week. We presented Mrs Paul with gifts to say thank you for her time at Rakaia School. Anita has resigned from her Deputy Principal position but will still support the school in a relieving capacity.

We also gave out certificates and badges for those hard-working students at our school.

Last week we also had the pleasure of seeing a visiting magician. Elgrego came to Rakaia School with his "You've got the power" show that is kindly sponsored by Trustpower.

This year's theme was it's **Time For A High Five!**

The High Five being five great values that help students be part of the solution to bullying.

Key values in the 2018 show are :

RESPECTFULNESS, RESPONSIBLE, CARING, HELPFULNESS and TRUSTWORTHY.

There is a clear message aimed at creating good attitudes and a bully free environment.

The students loved the show and the way he involved the audience and gave clear helpful messages to stop bullying.



**WHAT'S
ON
TOP**

Sports uniforms need to be returned after they have been washed and dried please.

Chocolate money is due this week please so we can close this fundraising option . All money due by Friday please.

Congratulations to the Raffle winners for the year 7-8 camp: 1st prize Lindy Curtis, 2nd Maddison Davidson and 3rd to Karen May. The raffle raised close to \$1000 dollars. Well done also to Haymesh and Allelie-Rose for their efforts in selling many tickets in the community.

Friday July 20th - Welcome to come along and share in some holiday fun and friendship at the St Andrew Presbyterian church from 11am. There will be a Community lunch and movie for the children. If you require any information please contact Dorothy Knight on 3027595.