

August 23 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week 5 of term 3. It is our term to focus on the Arts and we are building towards our Art exhibition on Thursday September 20. This will be held after school in the early evening so all can attend. We hope you can invite extended family to come and view the wonderful displays that will be up and listen to what the children have been learning throughout the term with their introduction to the International Primary Curriculum.

We will have a Team Ako assembly this Friday and invite you to attend at 2.30pm. Come along and see what our junior school have been doing.

On August 31st we will have a Full School Assembly and our new Deputy principal will be present to meet the children. Mrs Jill Cogger will be spending the day.

Our **drumming and guitar tutors** have started at school and slots are filling up quickly



"Just a reminder that guitar, drum and ukulele lessons are starting at Rakaia School this week. If you wish to enrol in this, please put your interest forward.. For enquiries regarding guitar and ukulele, please email Dan at danielhitchensmusic@gmail.com and for drums please email Alan at pickupsticksmusic@gmail.com"

Swimming - I have had the pleasure of teaching in Mahi Tahi over the last few weeks and have enjoyed attending the swimming sessions with the children. I do want to confirm that the grouping of students and their levels is confirmed by the Pool and the tutors. New swimmers are sorted quickly.

We had some questions around placements and these were clarified by the pool staff in reference to the levels they use. They are particularly hard on level 4 in regards to breaststroke legs being right. We would advise you to check in with the pool if you have questions or book for lessons after school to improve your children's capabilities in the important area.

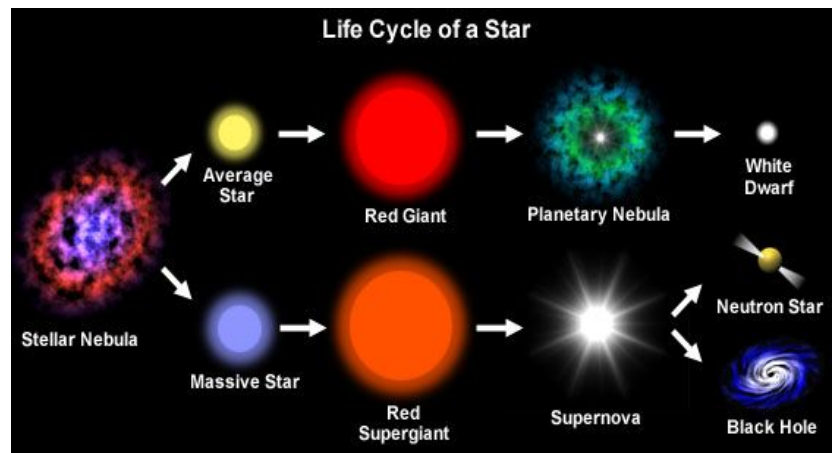
You never stop learning!



I had the pleasure of some of the Children coming to share their work with me today and Amber showed me how to do voice typing in the google environment. It was amazing and refreshing to have the children teaching me some new skills.

I think sometimes we can forget how much learning happens every day. Children are watching us closely to see what modelling we offer and what skills help us achieve.

It is also a pleasure to learn new things with them as well. This week I have been learning about stars and their life cycle with the year 5-6 children. We have been completing the International Primary Curriculum and exploring space as well as looking at an artist who was an astronaut for the NASA programme. Alan Bean had a fabulous life as a Naval Pilot and Astronaut and then turned his hand to painting the images he had seen in space.



NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2018 ASG NATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

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Now it's your turn – tell us all about your inspirational teacher! The 6 winners across each category will receive a \$5,000 grant and be flown in to attend a special awards event in Wellington.

Nominations for the National Excellence in Teaching Awards are judged on examples of one or more of the following areas:

- Outstanding leadership
- Expert knowledge
- Exemplary & Innovative teaching practice
- Professional engagement with colleagues, parents, carers & the community

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NOMINATIONS CLOSE THURSDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018.