

Newsletter August 13 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It was a pleasure to attend the Mahi Tahī assembly on Friday and learn about what they had been doing in class. It was presented as a news report by the pupils with news feeds from reporters and presentations. I really enjoyed learning about the masks the Year 7-8 students have begun to plan and also the reports on the School House Patrons. Well done Mahi Tahī!

It is a busy week this week and we apologise for any inconvenience for the planned early closure on Tuesday for our termly Teacher Only Day and then the Teacher's Strike on Wednesday. For many teachers industrial action is a last resort and we hope negotiations with the Government and Ministry of Education are solved quickly so we see better outcomes for teachers and pupils alike. We appreciate the messages of support for our teaching staff and the careful and diligent BOT consideration for what is best for our students on Wednesday.



Copy of BOT information from the last newsletter:

BOT Comment - Teacher's Strike - Good Afternoon,

I'm sure the holidays are a bit of a memory now and all school families are right back into it. On an important note, I am sure you are aware that the union staff at Rakaia School are involved with some pay negotiations presently. This may result in strike action on the Wednesday 15th August that will affect the whole day.

This is an important event, one that has not happened within 24 years. The Board of Trustees had a special meeting over the weekend to discuss how this may affect our community, staff and support team.

It is important to recognise that the Rakaia School Board of Trustees have elected to support our teachers on this occasion.

The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff, and unfortunately decided that we can't provide the normal teaching services during the strike. It's important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

The school will need to close during this strike.

Thank you for your understanding. The situation is dynamic and negotiations are continuing through the week, I will keep you updated with developments. Please contact me if you have any queries relating to this decision.

Yours sincerely

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Mahi Tahi Swimming

Mahi Tahi have two weeks of swimming now. We are going to unfortunately miss two of the days and your account will be adjusted accordingly. Please ensure the children have their togs for the day and a bag to place their belongings in.



Sports Uniforms

We still have a large number of sports uniforms outstanding. No matter how long you have had them, please return them as soon as possible.

Ski Day

If you registered interest in the ski day you should have received a final notice to fill in. Please return this by Friday the 17th so we can finalise the ski day.



