

Newsletter February 19 2019

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome to week 4. It is tremendous to announce we can now access new workers to support our children and families. **Mana Ake - Stronger for Tomorrow** provides support for children aged five to 12 years old across Canterbury.

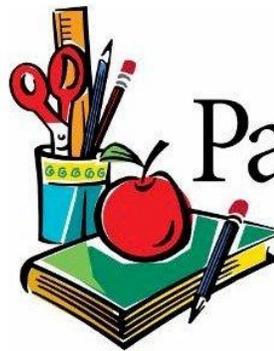
Mana Ake kaimahi (workers) work with schools to support teachers, families and whānau when children are experiencing ongoing issues that impact their wellbeing such as anxiety, social isolation, parental separation, grief and loss and managing emotions.

Kaimahi have a diverse range of skills and include psychologists, social workers, counsellors, teachers and youth workers. Kaimahi can work with individual children and their families at school, in the community or at home and with groups of children in schools. They provide advice, guidance and support for teachers and family/ whānau.

Mana Ake is now available to children in schools across Canterbury and this includes Rakaia

If you have any questions email info@ccn.health.nz

Goal Setting Interviews will be Tuesday February 26 from 3.20pm until 7pm. Bookings are done using the School Interviews website <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> and entering the code pduu9.



Parent-Teacher Interviews

Collection and drop off of children at Rakaia School:

A reminder please to clear the playground by 3.15pm. We invite children back to play but after they have changed out of their school uniform. If you are late collecting your children or there is a change to normal plans then please advise the school as soon as possible. We are acutely aware that we want all children returning home safely and promptly, not wandering the town until 4pm. Thank you.

From the BOT Chair - Good Afternoon and welcome back to 2019;

I hope that everyone is finding a bit of shade when they need it!

This year Rakaia School has excellent teaching teams available across the school with some great curriculum on offer. I would recommend meeting your child's nominated teacher or at least making note of their contact details. If you wish to talk to them, a prior arranged time is always best as they will have time to gather any information required.

The school grounds themselves are looking in great shape and I invite you to access the playgrounds, courts and field after hours if you wish to use them. Your children are best being supervised as we have limited liability outside of school hours. The school also has 24/7 surveillance.

As with most schools, there is a component of caregiver involvement for some activities. Being a smaller rural school, it only takes a few times to volunteer some time, a ride or your expertise and you'll be known by the children and teaching staff. I really enjoy coming to school as it's a break from my 'adult' responsibilities by focussing attention on the students. There is opportunity right across the school for involvement, just ask your teaching team on how you can help.

The Board of Trustees will be holding their first meeting on Feb 18. We refresh our focus around our key responsibilities and look for how we can support and guide the activities at school to provide 'learning achievement for every student'. This year we have elections and have three members up for rotation. I highly recommend this experience for anybody that feels strongly about education and how it applies to Rakaia School. More information to follow, but you are most welcome to contact me directly if you are interested.

As always, if you have any concerns around your child's learning please contact your teaching team first. If you have more serious concern, Mark Ellis will be able to assist.

Have a great week

Grant Lorimer
Board Chair
Rakaia School
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BOT Elections 2019 - we will have 3 standing positions available at election time on June 7th. Please consider this very worthwhile position and talk with BOT members if you have any questions. Information is available at the School office or online at

<http://www.trustee-election.co.nz/>

