

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to week 8 of the term. School finishes July 5 for the school holidays however we have a lot to get through before then.

It is a busy week here at school. On Thursday June 20 I will be holding seminars for the roll out of the new reporting system called Linc Ed. We will be going live on August 2 and I want to show you what you will be getting. A letter was sent home last week:

*I will be holding training sessions for parents. During these parents will get access links and passwords to the LINC-ED system and will receive training on how to navigate around your child's portfolio.*

**A member of your family needs to book into a training session that suits your timetable using the School Interviews programme, ([www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)) or use the access via our school app; This will be run on **Thursday June 20 starting at 9am with the last session at 4.30pm. I will also look at 2 evening sessions. One starting at 6pm and one starting at 7.30pm on Thursday July 4th** You will need to have your phone with you and we will have some devices available.**

*If you need assistance to book in or you cannot get to any of the training sessions, please contact the office and we can assist you. If you have any questions or queries, please email me directly and I will be able to help you.*

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and use the code **yf7hg**

**Currently I only have 15 families registered online for sessions.**



**Soup and Kahoot** - Thursday June 20th from 6pm. We invite you all to a great night out at school. The SSG will be supporting us with soup and the school will provide the fun entertainment with a quiz night using the Kahoot platform.

The aim of the night is to have fun at school and soak up the collaboration and atmosphere at Rakaia school where we care about you and your children.

Please do your best to come along and bring a friend. I am sure it will be a fun night to be had by all.

**Strong message delivered** - Thank you to all of the parents, grandparents and visitors who came to assembly on Friday. I delivered a strong message to the children and parents that swearing at school and exclusion are not behaviours we want to see at Rakaia School. I am not naive enough to think they won't happen when we are not present but we will act on what we

are told. I will do my very best to get both sides of the stories and although I didn't join teaching to be a policeman we will investigate things from both sides.

Many of our situations arise from misunderstandings, competitive situations, personalities clashing and the normal playground incidents that happen in every school, workplace and family in NZ.

Our biggest challenge is to teach our children some resilience and the belief they are OK with who they are. People's views and opinions of us are not ours to worry about.

This is not always easy and even as adults we stumble while navigating all that life throws at us. I want to encourage you to reiterate our values of Partnership, Quality and Respect at your home and place of work and within your family.

At Rakaia School we promise to do our best with your children. The staff and BOT are committed to providing an environment where your children have a voice and we will also do our very best to challenge them while having fun. Strategically we aim to have Inspirational staff, Innovative BOT, Engaged students and an Involved Community. We will not always get it right but the intent with all we do is to meet these goals.

The other challenge for us at the moment is teaching children how to respect others and their space and their differences. What makes our school so special is the diversity but with that comes some conflict occasionally. I am strong on not wanting any of our children to be victims. I want them to feel strong enough to walk away or to deal with a problem in a positive way.

Resilience is the key and there are a lot of articles online about this. We will also have our own thoughts and actions that help us achieve this for our families. My challenge is for the Rakaia School Community to concentrate on developing students who are active learners, kind and compassionate and respectful. I am sure we will all agree that this type of student will thrive in an ever changing world.

Thank you for your patience and understanding when dealing with sensitive issues. I am sure there is nothing we can't sort with Partnership, Quality and Respect .

