

Newsletter Term 3 Week 1

Dear Parents and Caregivers

It is wonderful to have all of the children back after the school holidays and I appreciate starting on a Tuesday was not easy for everyone, so thank you for your support and the support of the staff as they prepare for the term.

We congratulate Miss Bell on her marriage to her fiance Phillip. Claire was married on Saturday and now will be known as Mrs Fakitoa.

Please note there are also Teacher Only Days planned for **Friday August 21st** and also **Thursday November 12th**. These days are used to develop Teacher Professional Knowledge and network with other staff.

I have had a request to ensure the school calendar is up to date and we have worked to ensure you see what we do. You can access this on the school website and events on the school app. I would really encourage all members of the school community to use the app. It is a wonderful way for us to communicate and we have almost 1400 downloads. Facebook is also another media for our communication and then the website if you prefer not to use Facebook.

Talking about communication I urge all of you to communicate with us if you have concerns, comments or just clarifications. The worst thing you can do is seek clarification from those who didn't write the communication in the first place. Human nature makes it difficult for some people to confront problems or issues but when it comes to the education of your children you must. We get one shot at education and it is our aim to make this journey enjoyable, full of knowledge and experiences. If there are things you are unsure about then talk with your childs' teacher and if you do not get the answer you were seeking then talk with the team leader. If things are still unclear then approach the DP or Principal for an appointment.

The HERO software will give you feedback and digital reports however we will contact you if there are discussions we need to have and we urge you to do the same. It is expected that all families have the HERO app or access on their home computer so you receive the updates. At the end of last term we sent home mid year comments utilising the COVID time and term 1 and 2 successes. You should have all read them and we await interviews if you seek any comments or clarification. You should all be able to see the goals set for your children and also read the comments the teachers have shared with you.

<https://www.linc-ed.com/parents/> - how to login and set it up.

Monday, 20 July
Teacher Only Day - School closed for tuition
Tuesday, 21 July
First day of Term 3
Thursday, 30 July
7:00pm SSG Annual Meeting
Friday, 31 July
Photolife Photo Day
Monday, 10 August
Mahi Tahi Swim Week
Tuesday, 11 August
Mahi Tahi Swim Week
Wednesday, 12 August
Mahi Tahi Swim Week
Thursday, 13 August
Mahi Tahi Swim Week
Friday, 14 August
Mahi Tahi Swim Week

School appointments:

Teachers and staff at Rakaia school have fixed term contracts or permanent contracts depending on their appointment and position. Fixed term contracts do not necessarily roll into permanent contracts because permanent jobs must be advertised nationally. This is why we have advertised Miss Coggers DP position after receiving her resignation in term 2 and we have advertised the permanent position we have available that was Miss Gardyne's when she left.

All current staff in fixed term or part time positions can apply for permanent jobs and are encouraged to. The best applicant gets the position after being shortlisted and having an interview with the appointments panel.

We can inform you Mrs Alisha Hall and Mrs Jenna McNeur are permanent now and the appointment panel is being formed now for the other two positions. We are trying to get these sorted early so we can advise you all of the teachers and what classes they will be teaching in 2021.

I invite any parents who have expectations or attributes they would like to see in any of our new appointments to write to me and I can consider these with the appointments panel. This is important especially as we replace a senior member of the team.

I am aware there has been some discussion about these positions and I hope this clarifies the process and reasons for appointments. It is a normal process in schools that staff leave and are replaced using an appointment process that is contractually correct.

I can inform you that Miss Alissa Anderson will be moving to the senior team in 2021 to teach Year 5-6 with Mr Dawson. It is expected that the successful applicant for the permanent position will then move to Room 3.

Second Hand Uniform Sale

We will be having a second hand uniform sale this week on Friday the 24th of July from 2.45 until 3.15pm outside the shed at school. CASH is our preferred method of payment now that we are allowed to use it again.

We do welcome any donations of uniform, or swaps. Come along and see if we can help with your requirements.

Thank you Clare Stewart
0274 190020

LOST PROPERTY

If your children have lost any clothing at school and it was named then please see the office ladies and they may be able to help you. Otherwise if it was not named then I will have a bin of unnamed non uniform clothing at the uniform sale on Friday if you wish to come and claim it, otherwise I will be donating it. There is a basket of shoes in the lost property area beside room 3 if it is shoes that you are looking for.