

Newsletter November 30

Hello everyone and welcome to week 8.

We have a very busy schedule heading into the last three weeks of the term. On Friday December 4th we have our Student led House Fun Day Competition. We invite all of the children to wear their house colours and enjoy the chance to work in Partnership with each other to gather the last house points on offer.

- The Year 8 big day out is Thursday December 3. This is their special treat for the end of the year and their end of primary schooling at Rakaia.
- BOT elections close on the 4th and so we urge you to get your votes in.
- The School Picnic is December 15th at the Tinwald Domain
- The School Prizegiving is Wednesday 16th at 1pm in the Memorial Hall.

Behaviour Expectations

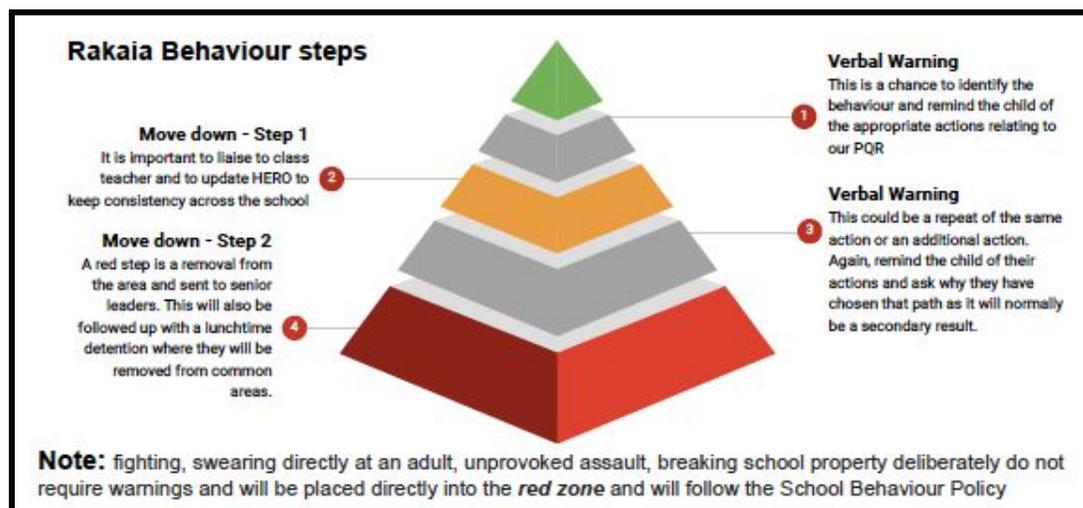
In recent times we seem to have developed some concerning behaviours in the school and this has led to a review where each type of behaviour sits and the consequences involved. The majority of behaviour is centered around boys and physical contact, bullyish comments and refusals to staff. Our behaviour steps chart below lists what will happen if a child does not follow the values of the school to show Partnership, Quality and Respect. Our Junior school also use a similar system but the children clip up and down their lists and it is very visual.

Children who reach Red cards will be in “time out” so things can be worked through and parents can be called.

As a staff we endeavour to do our best to keep you informed and to contact you if your child has

been involved in an incident, on both sides of the equation. There is no magic to behaviour management. We try and apply the same principles to every child as consistently as possible whilst evaluating any underlying verbal and non verbal cues.

We record every incident on our Student Management System, and you are welcome to request a confidential copy.



The above pyramid outlines the common steps for everyday behaviour management, there is a further matrix that this aligns with that describes the next steps for serious, ongoing documented behaviour and all this work will be shared with you again in 2021. The BOT is actively supporting the teaching staff in this review and look forward to a school next year that is crystal clear around acceptable behaviour.

I do remind you that while at school it is not appropriate for you to approach another child about an issue. This is done through the staff and principal so we maintain our dignity and respect. We all need to communicate at the appropriate level so we get the picture clearly.

Growing up is about learning to know ourselves and the others around us. The world is never perfect and we all have different experiences happening to us now or in the past. We want our children and families to feel safe here at Rakaia School so every child has every opportunity to partake in the curriculum.

We really need your support as parents to work together to change some of the concerning behaviour. We are open to ideas and value your feedback through e-mail or by calling in to see us.

This will be the last written newsletter for the year as we draw to a close. We appreciate our neighbours, our sponsors and community keeping an eye on our children and the school. The School values of Whanaungatanga (Partnership), Tino Pai Rawa (Quality) and Manaakitanga (Respect) are paramount to what we do and who we are at Rakaia School. Our children are encouraged to Be better, Work together, Do your best and Use your manners. These are our key messages and we hope you can embrace them and also use them when you talk and interact with our tamariki.

We encourage all of the community to join the school facebook page. We use this well to celebrate the successes of our learners. It is frequently getting 500-600 people viewing our posts and videos.

Recently we have had three camps. Our seniors went to Cromwell and studied the Goldfields, our Year 5-6 team went to Wainui to complete some water activities and our Year 3-4 students had an overnight experience here at school. These are the experiences we all remember as time goes on. I am extremely grateful to the staff for the extra work and also our parents who took time off work to be with our camps. Thank you all very much.

Merry Xmas

