

Rawerongo Newsletter

August Here-turi-koka 2018

Hola Halo oloketa

Fundraising

With the barbecues and Christmas Tree sales last year, and the Quiz Night this year, we have fundraised enough money to pay for the whare/playhut! This is being built by the woodworkers at the Boy's College and will be ready for us sometime in October. We are going on 2—3 visits with children (in a mini bus) to see how it's going. Different children will go each time so that everyone will get a turn. The first trip will be on September 13th at 10am. There will be paperwork to sign permission which will be notified closer to each trip.

THANK YOU BREAKFAST

We are holding a Thank You Breakfast, inviting people who undertook professional work for our new kindergarten at little or no cost.

Would anyone like to volunteer to cook the barbeque for this? We are planning to have bacon, eggs, sausages, hash browns, buns, tea and coffee. A couple of extra helpers would be great too! This will run from 6am—8am on Wednesday September 12th. Please see Mary. Thanks!

Farewells

We said goodbye to Tommy and Hamish recently who both started their different schools. Thinking of you two, and hoping you'll come back to visit—maybe for some of Hannah's sushi (happening this week)!

From the Board

Requisition

Nic and Penny, after staying on the Board for an extended period to see the shift through, resigned from their positions in July. Will and Gerard have come on as Chair and Vice-Chair, and as it's part way through a voting year they have to be approved by members (that's you, the parents). The board have requisitioned a special general meeting to be held on September 18th at 7pm to make it official. Everyone is encouraged and welcome to come to this meeting.

Message from Mary

After nearly 11 years at RSK, I am handing in my resignation as RSK's senior teacher/manager. My last day will be November 9th, so it's still a couple of months away! I have for the past year been planning a caravan trip around NZ with my husband, so am looking forward to doing that. I have loved being part of this kindergarten and helping with the shift into the new premises, which has been a lot of hard work and long hours, but also very rewarding. The Board are following a comprehensive process to secure a new senior teacher who will support and lead this wonderful kindergarten into the future—if you have any feedback about the qualities you want to see in this new person please phone Will on 021 324 100.

Armistice Day

Does anyone have a source of harakeke/ flax? We would love to make flowers from it, and have the children part of the weaving, learning about flax and it's history for Māori. There's a double reason, as there are 2500 flowers needed for Armistice Day on November 11th to line the Cathedral steps, so we would be able to contribute some of ours!

It's a Big Help...

If you drop your child off late, or pick them up too early, our kindergarten quickly starts to lose government funding.

Therefore it's a big help if you can ensure your child is present for their whole six hours (or for those few on four hours sessions for their whole four hours) so that we can access the full allowance of funding for that period.

Also, if you change phone numbers or addresses please do let us know asap.

Children's Learning

Children are settling in well to the new kindergarten; there is much settled play and learning going on with social relationships being confirmed and extended. Children will be great rolemodels for helping new children starting in the next few weeks to feel settled. The mudpit is a hit, so we'll keep a much smaller version when the soil goes down for the playhut and grass area (happening early in spring with the Community Workers).

We need a Gardener!

Do you know of anyone who likes to garden but is happy with a minimal amount? We have about an hour every couple of weeks so it's small, but at the same time very important. This person could help us out by keeping our rock bed and native garden weeded, and our grapes and fruit trees pruned each autumn/winter. It would be wonderful to find someone who works well with children and could involve them in their doings/knowledge when they are working inside the kindergarten grounds. We have budget to pay this person!

Mitre 10 Helping Hands

We have this happening for kindergarten in the last week of September—they are going to build a fence along the native garden bed, a water feature between the tank and the sandpit, and some planter boxes to grow vegetables in. Many thanks to Mitre 10 for doing this for us.

Sunsafe

It's very sunny some days now, and it's not far from the time when children must wear sunhats, so please start supplying your child with a hat in their bags.

Please 'LIKE' our facebook page—let's try and get to 150 'LIKES'.

Policies currently up for review are:

Cybersafety, Infectious Diseases/Pandemic, Parent Needs and Aspirations, Excursions and Vision/Philosophy.

These are in the Quiet Room, on the cork noticeboard, so please take a look and give your thoughts and feedback to Mary or Will or any of the teachers or board members.

We need to change our email address soon, as xtra will no longer be available in the not-too-distant future. Please be prepared to change our email address on your systems as soon as we notify you—thanks.

NOTICEBOARD

Our noticeboard for daily notices is on the outside window, in a direct line with the entrance pathway. *Please check this each day.* (It's quite hard to notice, but we intend to border/colour it up so it stands out more!)

The Quiet Room

We are slowly setting the Quiet Room up to be a place where parents can go to borrow books from the Parent's Library and to read group stories and policies and board notices. The children's notice pockets are also hanging on the wall in this room, so please clear them from there. Please feel welcome to go into this room—suggestions welcome for improvement—and help to see improvements through are also very welcome!

If anyone has a couch that's still in reasonably good condition that could be donated for this room we'd love to have it!

The room must be latched if there are no adults in there as it's not officially part of the children's environment; please ensure you latch it when you come out, thanks. (Children can be in there with their parents, of course).

Boomerang bags

These are for sale in the office window for \$10, and kept in each child's bag for their wet clothing. This is to save on our use of plastic bags.

Oral health tips: Healthy lunchboxes



Lunch boxes don't need sugary or processed snacks to be yummy.

Sugar causes tooth decay, and there are loads of ideas available for healthy, inexpensive lunchboxes.



Check out the Heart Foundation/ Fuelled4life ideas available in 5 languages.

Heart Foundation NZ website

For useful and printable resources in English, Te Reo Māori, Samoan, Tongan and Chinese.

Tap '**Resources**' on the homepage then search for '**lunchbox**'.

Teachers: Open the '**I am an educator**' box from homepage

Parents: check out lunchbox tips and recipes in the resources at <http://www.fuelled4life.org.nz/parents/parents-lunch-boxes>

NELSON MARLBOROUGH HEALTH COMMUNITY ORAL HEALTH SERVICE

Nelson: (03) 539 5324 | Stoke: (03) 539 5321 |

Richmond: (03) 539 5320

Motueka and Tasman Mobile Unit: 0800 833846

Blenheim and Marlborough Mobile (03) 5209922 or 0800 833849