



10 March 2022

Kia ora whānau,

Week six already and we are officially over half way through the term – where does the time go? It has been an action-packed term already with so many fun learning experiences that we have managed to continue with despite the challenges and interruptions that covid and sickness have provided. Included in the newsletter moving forward will be a class up date on what has been happening – these will perhaps show some of the things that we have been busy doing, as will our school facebook page! Check out the photos of what has been happening!

#### **THANKS**

I would like to take a moment to thank everyone who has supported us on the various trips/activities to date – having you give up your time to attend our trips and supervise our students is SOOOO appreciated! Both our Beach trip and the Year 7/8 Camping and Sailing Trip had so many benefits for our students – we are so pleased to be able to provide them for our students.

Thanks also to you all for keeping your sick children at home and also for keeping us in the loop with symptoms and testing. We still have not had any direct links with covid but appreciate all everyone is doing to prevent the spread of bugs and keep well!

Thanks to all those parents who were able to get their stationery paid by the 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. Sara Brogden had her name drawn out of the hat and was thrilled to get the cost of her stationery back!

Thanks to all those who were able to attend either in person or virtually to our Goal Setting Conferences. We enjoy the opportunity to chat with you about your child/ren, the progress they are making and the goals we have set together.

#### **BOARD UPDATES:**

**PROPERTY** The Board approved last year for shade provision for the swimming pool. Unfortunately delays in the factory has meant we are still waiting for the supply of the materials. When this is ready we will also be able to install our new school sign at the front of the school at the same time.

### STAFFING

The Board have regretfully received Whaea Sarah's resignation and she will be finishing teaching full time with us at the end of term. We have loved having Sarah as part of our team for the last 2 and a half years and we have all benefitted from her time here. Sarah is a passionate educator who cares deeply for the students in our school, she is a caring supportive colleague and she will be missed. We wish her well as she takes a step back from full-





time teaching to spend more time with her whānau. We are currently advertising to fill her position.

# TE WĀ

### Te Wā is a place of coolness (says Rocco age 7)

You may have heard your child talking about a new project we are starting this term called Te Wā. The purpose of this collaborative learning project is to engage students' imagination and creativity by planning and designing a new use for the grassed space between the sandpit, pool and playground. The name, Te Wā, was chosen because it connects to ideas around the physical 'space' we plan to work in, and more abstract ideas of journeys over time. This is a legacy project for our current students to take part in.

All three classes have already contributed valuable ideas for how they would like to see Te Wā look and be used. We have taken a trip to Taha Awa/Riverside Gardens in Dargaville to experience first hand how community spaces can be arranged. Next week, we are excited to be going to the Quarry in Whangarei to check out other styles of paths, art and planting for further inspiration.

Students will be offered opportunities to try out and develop many new skills over the course of the project. Your child might get to be a project manager, a landscape designer, an outdoor artist, a painter, learn to grow and plant trees, build and construct paths and structures! We also hope to entice whānau and friends of the school to get involved. We know you have many skills and we want to capitalise on those resources when the time comes for a working bee.

We really want to use as much repurposed and locally sourced materials as we can - as the saying goes "One person's trash is another's treasure!" So watch this space for lists of materials and skills we need to source in the coming weeks as our planning progresses.

I'm so excited to be working with your talented children on Te Wā and cannot wait to see the finished product!!!

Danya Hewetson







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## **KĀKANO NEWS**

Kia ora koutou from Kākano – We have had some very quiet days in class lately and for reasons I know you are all aware of. Despite this, some fantastic whole school experiences and learning have happened over this time. For Kākano specifically I would like to acknowledge the progress we have been making in the pool. Some students have overcome their fear of floating on their backs, and putting their head under water, while others have smashed their goal of swimming a whole length of the pool without stopping. Hopefully with the weather and pool temperature pending, we get a chance to develop a bit more confidence with these skills.



#### **MĀHURI NEWS**

Kia ora from Mahuri. Lots going on at the moment with school trips and bugs keeping students away, but we try to carry on with our regular program as best we can. We began looking at instructional writing, then onto explanations and the difference between them. Maths is all about addition and subtraction strategies, and we have been busy experimenting with our self-portraits using different mediums.

It's been great getting into the pool, and we have been practicing the skills for different swimming strokes. Swimming in the ocean at Mangawhai was definitely exciting.

Thank you for taking the time for phone or school visits to discuss your child's learning goals. I believe it's an important part of their involvement in their learning and a great opportunity to catch up about home life and other issues for families. We are looking forward to further trips and some exciting learning opportunities during the

remaining weeks of the term.

Nga mihi nui, Lyn Jackson



Newspaper Fashion Challenge



## **RĀKAU NEWS**

In Rākau, we have been working on Aquabots, New Zealand's first underwater robotics program for school aged children. With the help of Gareth and the Ministry Of Inspiration, we are nearly ready to finish our controls and get them swimming around the pool!

Last week, Rākau went on a camping trip over at the Kai Iwi Lakes, where we stayed Thursday night in tents and went sailing the next day. This was lots of fun and everyone really enjoyed it.

This week, we have been working with Māhuri on EPRO8, but this year our year 4s have been able to participate as well, as the people in charge have changed the way they do things. We have been enjoying having the equipment at school to help us prepare for the school competition on Friday. These are great ways for us to learn reading, writing and maths in a practical way.

Keira and Aroha





#### Mauriora, Kylie Piper **kylie@arapohue.school.nz**

2022 Term 1 Some Dates to Remember		
Thursday	every week days.	Tech starts for our Yr 7/8s – they need covered shoes on these
Tuesday	15 March	Whole school trip to Whangarei Quarry – see slip attached
Thursday	24 March	BOT meeting – staffroom at 6:30
Thursday	14 April	Last day of Term 1
Friday	15 April	Good Friday



