



June 2023

Newsletter #6

Kia ora whānau,

Last week I had the privilege of attending the Rural Teaching Principals Conference in Queenstown. It was an excellent opportunity to network with other principals from around the country and to learn and grow together. Hi-lights for me would be connecting with Hawkes Bay principals and hearing their cyclone stories – it takes me back to post quake days in Christchurch when I hear of schools still being closed like Nuhaka School where students are bused to their school, then put on different buses and bused for another 30 minutes or so into town to be split between three sites while their school gets repaired. Or there is Ruakituri where the principal picks up students and then they cross a river in her tractor to then catch the bus! Aren't we lucky with just a few damaged shade sails!

I was interested to note that 25% of NZ principals lead schools that are less than 100 students. Most of these schools are small rural schools such as ours. These Principals are usually teaching (some full time) juggling all manner of responsibilities that would be delegated in larger schools AND completing all Ministry Expectations of a Principal. Due to the unfortunate pay system we also get paid less sometimes than Deputy Principals of larger schools – it is little wonder that there is a 40% Principal turnover in these schools each year.

Our education system seems to be at crisis point, with a fraction of people choosing to undertake teacher training, high rates of burn out and high numbers of graduates moving overseas where work conditions are better. This worries me for the future of our children and is why I solidly support our teachers in any industrial action they take to fight for better outcomes. I also remain incredibly grateful that we have a solid, stable staff of experienced, high quality teachers that ensure our school continues to experience high levels of success – have you thanked your child's teacher lately for the awesome job they do?

CROSS COUNTRY

Our qualifying runners took to the Northern Wairoa Cross Country course with students from surrounding schools last Thursday at Te Kopuru. The rain held off and again our students did us proud, they all ran their hearts out showing our school values. Heidi (3rd), Stella (8th), Rocco (14th) and Elsie (5th), we congratulate you on your achievements. Heidi and Elsie have qualified to represent the Northern Wairoa at Northland Cross Country this week!





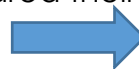
NEWS FROM FRIDAY'S ASSEMBLY

A very entertaining assembly on Friday, run by Māhuri.

We were treated to two play performances: **Making a sentence** – about how adding words makes a sentence and, changing their position can alter the whole meaning of the sentence. Then **Enviro Awards** which was a fun play with an Enviro Schools theme.



Kākano showed us their amazing insect masks and shared their learning of bugs and insects.



Classroom awards this week went to: Falco, Nelson, Elsie, Lachlan, Leo, Alex and Miss Mitchell!

PATH card prize draw: Congrats to those who got to spin the prize wheel. Falco won free time with a friend and Sara won an ice cream treat. Acacia-Rose was also drawn but was absent.

NEWS FROM KĀKANO

Last week we did an experiment. You had to use a syringe and a cup. You had to fill the cup up to 40mls of water. Then the teachers came around to give us green and red glitter and soil pest. It got grey and we couldn't suck it up any more. Leo



The glitter swirled around and the soil pest made grey water. It got stuck in the tube and we couldn't suck up the sparkles. Sara

We did an experiment using a syringe and we smelled bottles and we looked at the insects. Alex



NEWS FROM MĀHURI

Kia ora e te whānau,

Another week rolling on with much happening. I was very proud of our students at Cross County, who not only ran their best, but also supported other Arapohue students to do the same.

As we continue with our Science focus aligned with Enviroschools, we have been looking closely at the insects around us, how we determine whether they are friend or enemy, how their appearance tells us about their habitat, their food, their behaviour and how they communicate.

I will once again share some of the amazing sentences students have done as a result of our writing focus.

My wahoo for this week has to be reading the positive comments students said happened to them in our 'Random Acts of Kindness' week. Yes, there may be a chocolate fish in it for them, but increasing kind words and acts in our school is always a win in my book.

Nga mihi nui, Whaea Lyn

*Surprisingly, spider webs appeared all over the field. Some of the webs had little droplets of water on them. Spider webs—white, clear, sticky—everywhere, all over the school grounds. **Stella***

*Suddenly when I came to school I saw spider webs all over the field. When I went to the playground I saw spider webs everywhere, on the poles and the shade. Spider webs---clear, sticky and cool to look at. **Elsie***

*Trapdoor spiders live in holes covered in silk, mud. Waiting for food, the trapdoor spider opens his lair, but when the poisonous spider hears something in the bush, he jumps out. Trapdoor spiders---quick, cunning, curious---never shares its home, especially food. Trapdoor spiders fight! **Rocco***

*Suddenly hundreds of thousands of little creatures appeared on the field; what were they? Before I had time to think what they were, they started attacking me. I ran as fast as I could. I got tired, but I couldn't stop. When they bit me it felt like a bullet hitting. It stung very bad, then I remembered I was a bullet ant, but how did I get to NZ? I had to find out! **Jonathan***

NEWS FROM RĀKAU

We have been enjoying learning about different sentence types to enhance our writing. Sometimes we have started with a simple sentence and tried to build on it:

The bird was flying.

At dawn, the bird was flying above the forest gracefully.

While we were on vacation, the bird was flying around our house happily.

At noon, the bird, which is a fantail, was flying around for food. Summer

And other times we pick one subject and write using a variety of sentence types:

My Principal

Like all schools, mine has one. Thankfully, mine is super lovely. Under her guidance, our small rural school runs smoothly, yet she knows how to put fun into learning. My principal, a kind, helpful lady, is the nicest principal in all schools! My principal is the best, and her name is Mrs Piper! Ava.



We have also been busy writing letters to get sponsorship to rear some calves to raise money for our Camp Experiences. We are grateful to have had our calves donated from EIEIO Farms and Airedale Farms AND have generous support from Milligans, Fiber Fresh and NRM.

Mauriora,
Kylie Piper

kylie@arapohue.school.nz

2023 Dates to Remember

Thursdays	Every Week	Seniors to Tech
Tuesday	6 June	NZ Symphony Orchestra Online
Thursday	8 June	Northland Cross Country
Tuesday	20 June	Mathex – Year 5-8 competition
Thursday	22 June	BOT Meeting
Monday	26 June	Reports Home
Wednesday	28 June	Learning Celebration – 4:30 pm start
Friday	30 June	Last Day of Term 2

HOUSE KEEPING

If you are receiving a paper copy of this newsletter and would prefer to read it online (or vice versa) please let us know at the office and we will change this for you.

PAPER SHOPPING BAGS

We have many uses for paper shopping bags so if you have a supply we would be grateful to receive them at the office.

KEEN FOR AN AFTERSCHOOL PROJECT FOR YOUR CHILD??? **The Coffee Club Christmas Cup Competition is back for 2023!**

The Coffee Club are once again running this exclusive art competition for KidsCan partner schools to find fun and festive designs to go on their 2023 Christmas cups.

Entries close on June 19th, so don't miss out!

The top three designs will not only feature on The Coffee Club Christmas takeaway cups for the festive season, but there are also vouchers to be won for the kids with the winning artwork!

This year, prizes up for grabs will be vouchers:

1. First place: \$1,000 voucher for the child
2. Second place: \$600 voucher for the child
3. Third place: \$400 voucher for the child
4. 10 x Highly Commended: \$200 voucher for the child

The Coffee Club will also be making a generous \$10,000 donation towards KidsCan programmes in our partner schools to help us continue to provide support to kiwi kids in need.

For more details and to download the entry form, please click on this link <https://thecoffeeclub.co.nz/KidsCan/>