



ARAPOHUE SCHOOL

Te ara ki mātauranga • The pathway to knowledge

12 February 2024

Gosh what a super busy start we have made to the 2024 school year. It has been all guns blazing as the staff and students prepared their entries for the Northern Wairoa A & P Show and we look forward to now settling in to our more regular routines this week.

Can I take a moment to congratulate all of our students on their Indoor Entries at the show – they looked beautiful and our 200+ entries definitely contributed to the largest number of entries the show has ever had. I must also acknowledge those students that also participated in Agri Kids – we experienced lots of success there and also to Nelson, Devon and Harper who were showing their calves amongst the biggest number of cattle entries for a number of years.



Our earlier newsletter this year was written before all staff had returned to work so I would like to take a moment for the staff to share their holiday hi-lights and what they are looking forward to in 2024.

"Kia ora everyone, a holiday highlight for me would have been Camping for Christmas - so relaxed and easy! This year I am looking forward to Games Day Friday where we will be working in small groups play various card and board games with the students!" - Mrs Piper

"Kia ora to our Arapohue whanau, a few holiday highlights for me but spending quality time with my whanau was the best and the weather was amazing, I am rested and ready for the year, can't wait to get to know our new children and have some fun learning experiences." Whaea Annie.

"Hi everyone, a holiday highlight for me would be camping in my caravan down the beach and finding a very large sea snail shell on my dad's two year anniversary. This year I am looking forward to gardening and card games with the children on Fridays". - Mrs Christey

"Spending time with my family was a holiday highlight for me. Our annual holiday to Taporā where we caught lots of fish, relaxed and played some new board and card games. I'm looking forward to another action packed year ahead with lots of new initiatives".

- Mrs Cleary



"During the holidays I explored Northland with friends and family. I witnessed The Tasman Sea and The Pacific Ocean clashing together at Cape Reinga- very dramatic. This year I'm looking forward to spending time with all the special people in my life". - Whaea Philippa

"My holiday highlight was travelling to Waiuku to visit my Auckland based children and grandchildren. I am looking forward to the arrival of my newest grand daughter who is due in March and spending more time with friends and family near and far". - Whaea Sheryl

"I had an especially wonderful Christmas with the early arrival of a brand new grand daughter, who I was lucky to spend lots of time with over the summer break.

Having acquired my bus "Te tohorā kikorangi (the blue whale)", I have begun further exploration of the north island, travelling around, staying at camp sites. There is so many beautiful places in Aotearoa, we are incredibly fortunate to live here.

Which brings me to the term ahead, once we have caught our breath following the Arapohue Show Day, it'll be heads down and full steam ahead with lots of new learning. I look forward to catching up with many of you at our first Learning Celebration of the year, later this term.

Nga mihi nui, Whaea Lyn

2024 NEW FACES

We have been thrilled to welcome new families and new students to our school already. Joining us we have new entrants, Sarah, Willow and Junior along with Harper in Year 3, Azaria in Year 6 and returning to us we have Stella who is in Year 5. We welcome you and your families to our great school and we trust you will enjoy it as much as we do. Our roll is looking incredibly healthy at 44 – we have doubled our numbers in 5 years!



CYBER SAFETY PRESENTATION

This presentation will be held in Dargaville High School hall on Wednesday 14th Feb at 6:30pm.

We would request that at least one adult from each family attend, this topic is too big for us not to pay attention. Due to the importance of this topic we are offering additional incentives – all school parents attending will go into the draw for a \$100 dinner voucher and students know (you may have heard??) that if we get over 80% of our families attend they will get a WATER FUN DAY!

ATTENDANCE

We discussed in our last newsletter the importance of attendance at school. If children are healthy they need to be at school. If they are sick, please let us know **BY 8:30AM** as this minimises additional work for Rochelle having to follow up.

Alongside attendance is the importance of children arriving at school on time ready to start their day. School starts at 8:30am so it is recommended that your child arrives at school by **8:20AM**. Allowing your child time to settle in, unpack their bag, complete any jobs and see their friends allows them the best start to the day. Children that come in late not only miss the settling in period and instructions about the day ahead, but they also interrupt the learning of all of the other students as the teacher is often required to 'catch them up'.

If you are struggling to get your child to school PLEASE talk to the classroom teacher – they are the best first port of call to support you!

This term we will be sending home regular attendance/punctuality reports to enable you to keep track of where your child is at.

SWIMMING

Our swimming programme is well underway and most students are identifying this as the best part of the school day! We swim every day and it is important for your child to have their togs and towel every day – thanks for the great work in this area so far this year. Starting this week, our Rākau students will be swimming once a week in the town pool. They will do this after technology on a Thursday and it is a great opportunity for them to gain confidence in the deep water. We are likely to have some expert input and support from Mr Vern Stevens, ex principal of Selwyn Park which I am sure will see our students excel! Please ensure the attached permission slip is completed and returned to school by Wednesday.

NEWS FROM FRIDAY'S ASSEMBLY

On Friday our assembly was run by Kākano where they shared with us some of the fun games they play at swimming.

Classroom awards this week went to: Whaea Lyn, Heidi, Leon, Kylah, Azaria, Sara and Harper.



PATH card prize draw: Two lucky winners today – Kaycee who won a dip in the treasure chest and Heidi who won free time with a friend.

THANKYOU!

A massive thank you to Ruawai Lions for their donation of a trailer load of split firewood to our school for fundraising. Keep a watch out for this promotion coming soon.



STATIONERY

All students have been provided with the stationery they require for the year. Invoices have been sent home – HUGE THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY PAID!

All students who have paid in full by the end of the month will go into a draw to win their \$\$\$ back!

FACEBOOK/WEBSITE

I am aware of how easy it could be to feel disconnected with the school when you are working long hours and unable to pop in. Therefore, I would encourage you, if you are a Facebook user, to PLEASE follow our school facebook page, Arapohue School, we post notices about what is happening in classes, and information and reminders about any events coming up. Our school website is hopefully another helpful source of information and we aim to update it regularly. Every notice we put on the website should generate an automatic email to our families – if you do not receive these please let us know.

Our newsletter should also arrive to you by email – please check your junk mail folder if the electronic copy does not arrive. After today, we will only send paper copies to those families who request one so please let Rochelle know in the office is that is your preference.

Mauriora,
Kylie Piper
kylie@arapohue.school.nz

2024 Term 1 Some Dates to Remember

Tuesday	13 Feb	Tennis Coaching sessions
Wednesday	14 Feb	Cyber Safe session
Thursday	15 Feb	BOT meeting – staffroom at 6:30
Wednesday	6 March	Term 1 Learning Celebration – pool session & sausage sizzle
Friday	8 March	Year 7/8 Sailing at Kai Iwi Lakes
Friday	15 March	Southern Zone Swimming Sports
Friday	22 March	Cricket Fun Day
Friday	22 March	NW Swimming Sports
Wed/Thur	20-21 March	EPro8 in school
Thursday	28 March	Northland Swimming Champs
Friday	5 April	Ruawai Triathlon

Year 7&8 Swimming Permission

I, _____ give permission for my child _____ to participate in swimming at the Dargaville Community Pools following Technology on Thursdays. We will walk to the pools from the Intermediate School and will be finished by 2pm. For those town bus families, can you please indicate what you want your child to do after swimming:

- You will collect from town pools at 2pm
- Walk home from town pools at 2pm
- Return to school for normal bus home

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Ruawai JMB Rugby Club muster will be held at 6pm on Wednesday 21st February at the Ruawai Community Sports club (Ruawai Wharf Road). Bring the kids along and meet the committee and coaches at our friendly club. If you can't make it to the muster, feel free to send an email to ruawaijmb rugby@gmail.com and we can forward you a registration form or answer any queries you may have about the season. Our AGM will also be held after the muster and this is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to join the committee or to find out more about the club. Looking forward to seeing you there!

CLEVER HANDS
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