

Newsletter February 3 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Important: Waitangi Day - Thursday, February 6 - School is closed and we are open Friday, February 7.

It has been a great start to the 2020 year and we appreciate having the students back with wonderful stories to tell and share with us about their holidays and the fun they have had.

We welcome Mrs Amanda Smith to Whanau where she will be teaching four days a week and working closely with Mrs Stapleton and also Miss Cogger.

Mr Dawson has had some surgery on his ankle and is out of action for at least a week or two and so Mrs Marr and Mr Ellis will be doing some coverage for Mahi Tahi as he recovers.

Our new turf has been laid and we certainly encourage the children to use it at the weekend. We would prefer no bikes or scooters on the turf and certainly not motorized vehicles. A small 4 wheel motorbike was here the other day and I was not quick enough to talk with the rider. If you can just ensure those vehicles are left for the tracks, not schoolyards.

Times for arriving - a reminder that school starts at 8.55am every morning and the students can arrive from 8.30am onwards. We know they were excited to be back but at 8.15am we cannot ensure supervision as staff are getting their days planned. We also require the playground cleared quickly at the end of the day and if children come back to play after school we ask they dress in mufti and not uniform. This helps us look and understand they have been home before returning to school.

Rakaia 101 - I have a planned presentation for new parents as well as current parents. This will take place **February 11 at 9.15am**. I will also look to hold an evening one as well. At this presentation we will cover the workings of the school and have time for questions. Please come along with any questions or suggestions you may have.

Swimming Carnival Year 3-8 - Our swimming carnival is Monday February 10 at the Rakaia Pool by the Fire station. This day is for all students year 3-8 and they have an opportunity to compete in events for house points and qualify for the sports with Dorie and the Christian School. To qualify they will have to take part in length events and be able to confidently complete the event.

The children can wear House Colours for the day to support their teams and the event will begin at 11 am and finish by 1.30pm. Width events will be first and children are encouraged to enter a minimum of two events.



Early Closure COL - Once again this year the Community of Learning will be having one day a term with early closure for all 90 staff of the 9 schools to meet and have some professional development to improve outcomes for our schools and students. School will close at 1pm these three days and the full day in term 4. **Term 1 early closure is March 3rd.**

Website, Facebook and App - please download our school app and keep an eye on the facebook page. We also have the calendar being updated as new events pop up. We endeavour to keep you well up to date with all of the school happenings. The app is free from the app store or apple store. We have over 1300 downloads at this point in time so it is proving popular. If you download then look under events and you will see the up-coming events and details. Just check with us if you are unsure.

Allergies at school - A reminder to all that we have several children at school now with allergies resulting in anaphylaxis. In simple terms, peanuts and eggs can be life-threatening to the children concerned. We ask you to carefully consider your lunches for the children.

We thank you for your understanding.

Uniform - there has been no change to the uniform. Uniform at Rakaia School has never been compulsory however 99% of children wear the uniform with pride. It is actively encouraged by staff.

- There is no set shoe or socks. They must be suitable for running and jumping. Sandals are allowed in summer but not jandals.
- Children have the royal blue polo and a navy blue sweatshirt/polar fleece
- Navy Blue shorts for boys, preferably cargo
- Summer gingham skort checked royal and white for summer
- Navy blue tracksuits for boys and girls can also be worn. They can be cotton, fleeced and/or branded but must be Navy Blue.
- Winter Kilt for girls and blue tights can be worn underneath skorts.
- Thermals for winter should be navy blue
- Hats in summer must be sun safe and can be any colour. No caps!

Uniform is at the warehouse Ashburton and if you want anything else with a logo this can be done at Workoutfitters Ashburton and they are situated in the mall shopping centre across from REPCO.

Stationery 2020 - All stationery packs this year are \$45. They include all the books and pens, pencils, glue sticks, and accessories your children will need in class. There should be no need to buy anything else.



We have worked closely with the staff and supplier to get the books the children will use easily for their age group. You are not obliged to use these selections however we moved many years ago to providing packs to make it easier for you. We can provide you with a list of items if you

wish to purchase your own and reuse other books. They just need to be named clearly and be the same mm lined and quads for maths books.

Education is always a changing landscape and books are just one medium for recording work. Many of the children will use their Google accounts for storing written work and assignments. Any unused books will be returned to you at the end of the year.

New Itinerant Music Teacher for Rakaia School



Tyler Robbins BMus My name is Tyler Robbins.

I am a working musician and music tutor. In 2018, I completed a Bachelor of Music at ARA Institute where I majored in performance Piano and composition. I have also been playing Guitar for 14 years, playing Drums/Percussion for about 6 years. And playing Flute for 3 years. As a working musician, I have had the privilege to play alongside some amazing musicians in a wide variety of musical projects such as drumming and writing music for my touring band *Horizone*, playing as a session keyboard/synth player for *The Settlers*, who will be performing at Electric Ave music festival this year, as well as playing in several musicals at *The Court Theatre*. This year I

will be offering lessons in **Guitar, Ukulele and Flute**.

I am currently teaching at Ilam School, Christchurch School of Music (CSM), Monster music and as a relief tutor at Mrs A's music school as well as a few private students from home. I'm really looking forward to teaching this year so thank you for having me at your school. **Lesson Structure:** Lessons are **\$22** for a **20 minute private lesson** or **\$15** per student for a **20 minute paired lesson**.

I will be trying to keep lesson timetables similar to Dan's so last years students will get priority of available time slots, but new students are most welcome to sign up. Lessons will be on **Fridays** beginning on the **28th of February**. Please leave you name at the office and a sign up form will be available to express your child's interest. Looking forward to hearing from you, Thanks, Tyler

Second Hand Clothing Sale

Welcome back to the new school year and back to school uniforms and we are here to help. The next sale is Tuesday the 4th of February from 2.45pm until 3.15pm in the usual place outside the shed at school. Over the holidays if you have had a clear out of clothing that doesn't fit anymore, please think about donating any school uniform to the clothing sale, as all the funds raised from this sale help Rakaia School Support Group, to support your kids at school. Good

swaps of uniform are also welcomed. There are still a few brand new boys' shorts available in bigger sizes. So bring your cash and see what we have got. Also for sale we have some back packs in two colours, pink and blue these are \$5 each and can be purchased at the sale on Tuesday.

Thank you Clare Stewart
0274 190020

RAKAIA NETBALL CLUB:

SENIOR Trials and Musters for all senior grades, incl high school, premier, socials grades. Wednesday 12th and Monday 17th February at our Rakaia Domain Courts, 6.30pm with warm up together.

JUNIOR Trials and Musters (Yr3-8 children) Wednesday 26th February and Monday 2nd March at 4.30pm.

JUNIOR pre-season Have A Go Days for Rakaia are Wednesday 19th and Monday 24th February at 4.30pm.

We welcome expressions of interest for Coaches, Managers, Umpires and Sponsors for both Seniors and Juniors.



Rakaia Netball Club is a small but successful club and welcomes players at all levels. We are a friendly, social club with a supportive and hardworking committee.

We have excellent court facilities located at the Rakaia Domain, where we train. All games are played indoors at the EA Networks Centre in Ashburton.

Kerry Aspin 027 378 6313 (club president)
Lara Reihana 027 226 6134 (junior co-ordinator)
email: rakaianetball@gmail.com
Fb: @RakaiaNetballClub

JUNIOR SQUASH MUSTER and "HAVE A GO DAYS"
Wednesdays 5th February and 12th February 2020
Rakaia Squash Club, Rakaia Domain
4.30pm-5.30pm

Primary / Intermediate / Secondary

Rakaia Junior Squash "Have A Go Days" are a FUN and FREE intro to squash!



It's also to gauge interest and take registrations for our club's 2020 junior squash programme, running in Term 1 and Term 3. Come with a smile on your face and clean non marking shoes on your feet (or bare feet), racquets are provided. Parents/Caregivers to please stay. If you or any friends are interested in junior squash but are unable to attend the Have-A-Go-Days please contact: Rachel Hart 0275 303 503 (Rakaia Junior Squash Co-ordinator) rakaiasquash@gmail.com fb: Rakaia Squash Club